

The Southern Oregon

NEWS REVIEW

"Ashland—Home of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival"

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PLANE CRASH KILLS 3 ASHLAND MEN

City Council Acts to Collect Back Liens

Delinquent city assessments and liens, totaling \$9,554.71 and representing a 10 year accumulation, will be turned over to the Jackson county sheriff for collection with county taxes as a result of action taken by the city council at its regular meeting Tuesday night.

Ashland, through its original charter, is one of two cities in the state permitted to turn delinquent assessment accounts over to the county for collection. City Recorder John B. Austin said.

Chamber Hears Decoration Plan For Christmas

Chamber of Commerce members were given a preview of Ashland's proposed Christmas decoration plans by Abe Neslin, chairman of the decoration committee, at their weekly meeting at the Elks club Tuesday noon.

Last year Ashland was known as "the only dark spot on highway 99," Neslin told members and plans are now under way to secure appropriate street decorations for the city at a minimum cost.

The decorations which Neslin said the committee is considering would be a permanent type that could be used year after year and easily stored. The decorations, which would extend across Main street, would consist of four to six streamers per block from the city library, through the Plaza to Helman street.

Neslin said that the street decoration proposal was only a part of the committee's plan to give Ashland the proper festive appearance and that a home decoration contest may be included. "The recent clean-up campaign demonstrated that citizens of Ashland like to participate in civic activities and we propose to give them more opportunity to do this," he said.

Lynn Newberry, Chamber of Commerce president said that although the plans are only tentative, the proposal was being presented in order that members might have 60 to 90 days to consider it and make suggestions.

Miss Jessie Mackie, Ashland's only candidate for queen of the Jacksonville Gold Rush Jubilee was a guest at the meeting.

Juvenile Officer Not Yet Selected

No action has yet been taken to fill the position of county juvenile officer, left vacant when the resignation of John Richard became effective June 30.

Twelve applications have been received by Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna and these are to be screened by the citizens' advisory committee, which makes recommendations to the court regarding the officer.

Richard has assumed his new position as administrative assistant at Catholic Charities in Portland, according to an announcement by the Rev. Jerome M. Schmitz, director of the Oregon Chest Red Feather agency. He served as juvenile officer in Jackson county for two years.

Contract Awarded For Hill Project

Construction of a third lane on the Billings hill section of highway 99 north of Ashland was awarded to Valley Concrete company of Portland on a bid of \$26,213, the state highway commission reported.

Work on the project is to include widening the pavement and resurfacing the highway for .36 mile to the Southern Pacific underpass to provide two lanes southbound and one lane northbound traffic.

The commission's announcement did not state when work on the section is to begin, but earlier announcements indicated the project is to be completed next month.

An ordinance listing liens that have not been collected for the past 10 years was presented by Austin and unanimously adopted by the council. Mayor Phil Stansbury suggested that the recorder follow this procedure annually in the future.

Complaints regarding flying cinders, ashes and sawdust from sawmills within the city limits were made by Owen C. Gragg, owner of Twin Plunges and Bernard Pederson. Gragg and Pederson contended that the council has not enforced the soot control ordinance passed April 18 requiring mills to install some type of cyclone burner as a means of control. Council members expressed by council members was that the ordinance has been complied with in that the specified burners have been installed. The complaints maintained the condition still exists as a public nuisance.

City Attorney Harry Skerry stated that the problem is similar to that of any Oregon city with mills and that, as yet, no completely satisfactory solution to the problem has been found.

It was suggested by Dr. Walter Weller, recently appointed member of the council, that any future suggestions for the alleviation of soot and cinders be submitted to the council in writing in order that the problem might be better studied by council members. He also stated that, in his opinion, the council had done everything possible in the past year to aid the situation and that nothing more can now be done by the council. The council advised the complainants that the only recourse open to them would be legal action.

In other business, the council accepted the financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950, which showed an overdraft of \$2,716.88 in appropriated expenditures. The amount was somewhat less than anticipated a month ago. Routine monthly reports from the water, electric and fire departments were accepted by the council.

A contract for construction of a pumping plant for the Oak street sewer line at a cost of \$1,875 was awarded to Ausland and Dodson of Ashland. Work on the project is to start in the very near future.

Second reading of the proposed East Main street vacation ordinance was held over until the next meeting at the request of Drew Lamb, owner of Magnolia Lumber corporation. The ordinance, which was passed by first reading at a special meeting Friday night, would grant the company a strip 13 feet wide and 140 feet long adjacent to the present plant. The lumber company petitioned the council some time ago in order to make plant expansion possible.

PRELIMINARY HEARING WAVED IN RAPE CASE

Keith D. Monson, 23, Ashland, was removed to the Jackson county jail Wednesday morning after waiving preliminary and grand jury hearings on a charge of rape, according to Chief of Police Vern Smith.

Monson was arrested here Sunday after a 15-year-old girl told city police he had forcibly attacked her on High drive in Lihia park.

He is being held in lieu of \$2,000 bail pending appearance in the circuit court. His only recourse following waiver of hearings will be to enter a plea of guilty, Smith said.



DIRECTORS OF THIS YEAR'S SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL pause to laugh over a remark made by Dr. Curt Zimansky at a recent conference. Shown from left to right are Dr. Zimansky of Iowa State university, academic consultant for the festival; Richard Graham, New York, directing Comedy of Errors; Angus L. Bowmer, Southern Oregon college, producing director and director of As You Like It; James Sandoe, University of Colorado, directing Antony and Cleopatra; and Allen Fletcher, Purdue university, director of King Henry IV, Part One. All directors except Dr. Zimansky have roles in the plays.

Allocation Approved For \$215,000 Post Office Here

Allocation of \$215,000 for the construction of a federal post office in Ashland has been approved by the public building service, according to word received here Wednesday from Senators Wayne Morse and Guy Cordon.

Senator Morse's wire to the Chamber of Commerce read, "An allocation has been made by the public building service for a federal project at Ashland with a top limit of \$215,000 to cover building and site. All that can

Rians Appointed To Draft Board

Appointment of Reuel K. Rians, Sr. of Medford to the vacancy on selective service board No. 17 was announced Tuesday by Col. F. W. Mason, deputy state director for selective service.

Rians replaces Henry Niedermeyer, who resigned recently when he moved to Josephine county. Board No. 17, with offices in the federal building, 33 North Riverside, Medford, serves all of Jackson county.

The appointment completed board membership for the first time since full operations began over two weeks ago. Guy Applewhite, Ashland is chairman of the board and G. W. Gregg, Central Point is the third member.

The office began operations on a 40-hour week July 10 and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with Mrs. Thomas McFadden in charge.

Although the board has been alerted to expect a call for men to take preliminary examinations, no quota or other instructions have been received as yet. Mrs. McFadden reports that she has been swamped with registrations of 18 year olds, changes of address and requests for information. One paid assistant is provided for the board and the addition will be made soon, Applewhite said.

State selective service headquarters said there still is an apparent lack of understanding of the selective service law, which requires registrants to keep their addresses on a current basis with their local board. The responsibility for keeping his local board advised as to his current address lies entirely with the registrant. Penalties under the act carry a maximum of five years imprisonment, \$10,000 fine or both.

"Registrants must not only advise their local board of their current address but also of any change in marital status

be done under the present authorization is to purchase the site and prepare the drawings."

An announcement received by Postmaster E. E. Vail from Senator Guy Cordon said, "Present action will be limited to acquisition of site and preparation of drawings as there are no funds available at the present time for construction of any federal buildings. However, this will put Ashland in line for a new post office when a federal building program is authorized and money is appropriated."

Vail said to his knowledge no site has been chosen and that selection would rest with the federal government. He said federal inspectors from Seattle would probably be here soon to look over possible sites. Drawings will not be started until after the site is secured.

Approval of the building came as the result of nearly six months continuous effort by the federal building committee of the Chamber of Commerce. The committee, headed by Bert Miller, has been in contact with Senators Morse and Cordon, Representative Harris Ellsworth and Representative Albert Thomas, chairman of the independent offices appropriation subcommittee. Assisting Miller on the committee have been Vail, Leland P. Linn and Dr. Elmo Stevenson. They are now completing a large portfolio which was to be sent to Washington showing in pictures, letters, documents and statistics why a federal building is needed in Ashland. Miller says he does not think it will be necessary to send the portfolio now, but it will be valuable for local use.

Vail said that the present post office, long considered inadequate, has been in use for about 55 years. Attempts were made several years ago to secure approval of a new building, but no action was ever taken.

Hugh F. Bell of Condon, Oregon was in Ashland last week for the wedding of his son Paul to Marbeth McKeever on Sunday. Marvin Baska and Herman Fanger of Portland were also visitors who attended the McKeever-Bell wedding.

Festival Tickets Placed On Sale at Box Office

Sale of Shakespearean Festival season tickets is now under way at the Elizabethan theater box office, according to John Cotton, president of the Shakespearean Festival association.

The box office is open from 12 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. every day except Sunday with Mrs. Kathryn Ingle in charge of sales and reservations. The box office phone number is 2-8151.

Cotton urged that reservations be secured early since sales are now running far ahead of any previous year.

Shift In Police Force Announced

Announcement of three changes in city police department personnel was made this week by Police Chief Vern Smith.

Resignation of Sgt. Thomas Ghea, who has been a member of the force for three years, becomes effective July 21. Ghea, who has been on night patrol duty, stated that he has received an offer for a position with daytime hours at higher pay.

Promotion of patrolman George Bennett to night sergeant effective on July 1 was also announced by Smith. Bennett, who has been a member of the Ashland police force for the past year, is a veteran of World War II with 3 years army combat service, where he won several citations, among them the purple heart and two bronze stars. He rose from private to a captaincy in the 186th infantry. He is married and has two children.

Mrs. Amy True has been hired as office assistant and receptionist and started her duties Monday, Smith announced.

TWO BOYS ESCAPE FROM BLAZING CAR

Sam Bell, 18, and David Block, 17, both of Ashland, escaped injury early Wednesday morning when the car in which they were riding ran into a ditch and caught fire on Highway 99 at Peachey road, Chief of Police Vern Smith reported.

The boys reported they were returning from the Drive-in Theatre in Medford when they saw a dog in the road, and in trying to miss it, lost control of the car.

Ken Perrine, Eugene Lebell, Don Ramsey Plane Crash Victims

Three Ashland men were killed Tuesday when their light plane crashed in the rugged mountains of Humboldt county California 17 miles southeast of Kneeland.

The Humboldt county coroner arrived at the crash scene late Wednesday and positively identified the bodies found in the wreckage as Kenneth Perrine, Don Ramsey and Eugene Lebell, all of Ashland and Frank Ralston, Eureka, Calif., who was reportedly the pilot of the plane.

Ashland's Festival Termed Most Unique of Its Kind

Ashland's Shakespearean festival is the most unique event of its kind in the world and it is gaining in stature each year, Gene Maleckie told members of the Kiwanis club at their noon meeting at the Elks dining room Monday.

"It is now up to you to keep what you have," Maleckie said. The festival has reached the point where it is internationally known, he pointed out, and the people of Ashland should take advantage of this publicity by being sure that visitors are well taken care of and shown an enjoyable time while here.

Shakespeare is presented in all parts of the world, but the local festival is the only one so ambitious as to present four different plays on successive nights, Maleckie said. The Oregon festival is unique for its large repertoire and its picturesque outdoor theater in a beautiful park setting and this is attracting an increasing number of actors and visitors each year.

Increasing importance of the festival is indicated by the fact that the state highway department is for the first time this year, featuring it in its national magazine and newspaper advertising.

Outstanding publicity for the tenth annual festival includes radio transcriptions, outdoor billboard advertising, newspaper releases and over 2,000 letters and 25,000 brochures. All of these are showing results and were made possible by the remarkable growth of the festival and the reputation it has established over the past 14 years, he stated.

Disappearance of the Kiwanis membership rabbit, Katy, was reported by Bert Miller who has been her custodian since Tuesday June 26. Nothing is known of her present whereabouts but it is hoped that she will be located before next week.

It was announced by President Ed Barnett that the club will sponsor a booth at the mop fair, which is to be held in connection with the Shakespearean festival. Oliver Green was appointed to head the committee and he will be assisted by Fritz Koester and Emmett Witham.

Guests were Eugene Tolliver, Los Angeles, Frank Roe, president of the Medford Kiwanis club and Jessie Mackie, only Ashland candidate for queen of the Jacksonville Jubilee.

HILL PARKING RULE REPEATED BY SMITH

Police Chief Vern Smith issued a reminder again today regarding proper hill parking. A number of accidents have been caused recently because of negligence in parking on hills, he said.

Proper hill parking includes stopping the motor, setting the brakes and turning the wheels into the curb. Smith pointed out that this procedure is outlined in the Oregon code and that drivers of unattended cars are liable for damages caused by runaway vehicles.

Mr. and Mrs. William Snider left Ashland this week for Coos Bay where they expect to make their permanent home.

Circumstances leading up to the crash were clouded Wednesday with conflicting rumors and it was not definitely known that Lebell was a passenger in the plane. The coroner, however, identified all bodies and started removal early this morning.

Search crews were alerted Tuesday afternoon when the men were reported overdue on a flight from Eureka to Ashland. They had reportedly taken off at 6:45 a.m. with a four and one-half hour fuel supply. Lt. John Lipsit of the McChord field air search unit established headquarters in Medford Wednesday after arriving with a B-17 and numerous private planes were pressed into the search.

The CAA office in Medford said this morning that a ground party reached the wreckage last night after receiving a report that a man had located the crashed plane.

Perrine and Ramsey left Ashland Monday evening in a privately owned B-13 piloted by Lebell, to make electrical repairs at the Spaulding mill in Arcata. Slight damage resulted to the plane in landing at Arcata and the men later chartered the Cessna 170 monoplane for their return trip here, according to reports.

Perrine, owner of an industrial electrical shop here, often made business trips by plane to northern California mills and Ramsey had been employed by the firm for several years. Lebell was employed as service manager by Selby Chevrolet here and was an experienced pilot.

Republican Picnic Draws 160 People

Day-light saving time has its ardent supporters among picnickers and none more so than the 160 Republicans of Jackson county who enjoyed three hours of carefree celebration on Wednesday evening. By five o'clock families began arriving with their well filled baskets and the fragrance of coffee, being brewed by Clarence Lane, floated invitingly through the upper park area. Two long tables, arranged in a V shape, groaned with food and on the side-lines cases of soft drinks and cartons of ice-cream completed the array of food. It was all in keeping with the general informality which prevailed and the "grass roots" sentiments which were expressed. Those who attended this first county picnic of the Republican party came from the far corners of the area included, and all seemed to agree that the "get-together" was a success and should be made an annual event.

Rodney Keating, the new vice chairman of the county central committee, acted as master-of-ceremonies, introducing everyone with flattering lack of rank and officialdom. He proved a witty and entertaining host with his off the record anecdotes.

Others who spoke briefly were Mrs. Curtis Hopkins, chairman of Jackson County Central committee, Mrs. Allison Moulton, president of Medford unit Republican women, Mrs. Wm. McCullough, president of the Ashland club and several candidates. Layton Schell provided music during the evening and presented ex-president Hoover's latest public address over the wire recorder.

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