



PORTLAND—The Democrats of Oregon were flabbergasted, to say the least, when word came through from Washington last week that Nan Wood Honeyman had been appointed collector of customs. Mrs. Honeyman will replace the able and efficient Fred Fisk of Eugene when his term expires April 30, next. Judge Fisk stated that he had not made application for another four-year term, and it's just as well he didn't because the cards were stacked against him, and how. Political patronage of this kind has heretofore always had the blessing of the national committee, state chairman and Oregon's lone Democratic congressman, Walter M. Pierce, all of whom had endorsed Mr. Fisk for a second term. Then, out of the clear blue and unbeknownst to any of the Democratic high command, their recommendations were ignored and Mrs. Honeyman was nominated by the president for the job, which the senate confirmed. So, the lady is in. Considerable newspaper space has been given to this story all over the state, but the stories failed to give the low-down, and here's how it happened:

Mrs. Honeyman was a bridesmaid for Mrs. Roosevelt when she and Franklin D. Roosevelt were married many years ago. Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Honeyman have been bosom friends all these years. When Mrs. Roosevelt paid a visit to the northwest last fall she was the house guest of Mrs. Honeyman, and the ex-congresswoman let it be known at that time that she would like to have the job of collector of customs, and Mrs. Roosevelt evidently did the rest in grand style. Who would be in a better position to whisper a few words in the president's ear concerning any appointment? There you have the real inside of the story.

However, the unexpected appointment of Mrs. Honeyman without the O. K. of the Democratic high command has caused a dither in Democratic ranks—the boys burned up the wires to Washington, but without avail. They pointed out that, with one exception, all of the five major appointments—namely, U. S. marshal, U. S. district attorney, state WPA director, collector of customs and collector of internal revenue, are Portland residents, which isn't good for party organization. The juicy jobs should be spread over the state, they argued; but no answers came in response to the scores of telegrams. So the faithful gulped, wrote letters of congratulation, and wished Mrs. Honeyman a Merry Christmas.

The big shots of the State Grange are drafting a bill for the next session of the legislature which, if passed, will put all real estate on the tax rolls, except city, county, state and federal property. The Grange leaders say that millions of dollars worth of real estate and buildings owned and operated for profit by scores of athletic and social clubs throughout the state are now tax exempt, and the same goes for many fraternal organizations. Grangers argue that the tax exempt feature given these organizations, which are all profit-making, is costing the taxpayers close to a million dollars a year.

Here are a few long-range political predictions for you to mull over during the holiday season. You're a cinch to have an independent candidate for governor, regardless of who gets the two old party nominations. State Grange Master Ray Gill is said to be the choice for the independent ticket. Ex-Governor Charles H. Martin will attempt a political comeback via the independent route for congress from the Third district. Dean Walker, president of the state senate, is being seriously considered for appointment to the state board of higher education and regent of the University of Oregon. Lowell Stockman, Republican, will have considerable Democratic support in the race for congress against Walter Pierce.

THOSE WHO COME AND GO—Herb Chandler, the Hereford cattleman from Baker, talks livestock to Herman Chindgren of Molalla. Ben Dorris, American Legion kingmaker, of Eugene, and other Legionnaires talk things over. R. E. Brook of Ontario, a former state legislator, chats with Guy Gordon of Roseburg. Gordon will attempt to go to congress from the new (4th) district. Ed Morris, hotel man from North Bend, here to celebrate Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Dan E. Clark of Ashton, Idaho, talk livestock and the good market. Dell Ward and Har-

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POWER COMPANY TO COOPERATE FULLY IN DEFENSE PLANS

MAJOR RESOURCES TO BE POOLED

Prediction by the Office for Emergency Management that the Pacific northwest may experience a power shortage in 1942 as the result of "all-out" war demands for industrial production was viewed seriously here by A. M. Thrasher, local manager for Pacific Power & Light Company.

Pooling of all available power sources, public and private, as was done in the TVA region last fall to alleviate a serious shortage there can however, do much toward minimizing possible future curtailments of civilian power use in the northwest, in Mr. Thrasher's opinion.

"We are ready to cooperate fully in such a program and are prepared to make all necessary interconnections on short notice," Mr. Thrasher said.

Expansion of aluminum and magnesium plants on a scale far beyond anything imagined a few short months ago was cited by the OEM as the reason for the prospective power shortage.

The defense agency pointed out that while a new aluminum plant can be built in six months it takes two years or more to build a power dam. A further complicating factor is that manufacturers of electric power plant equipment also have the job of building marine turbines for America's two-ocean navy and for the rapidly expanding merchant marine.

"In this situation, it is easy to understand the emphasis placed by the OEM on the possibilities of gaining extra kilowatts by power pooling," said Thrasher.

"Along with the engineers in charge of other utility company operations, our engineers early this year made a thorough study of the Pacific northwest power situation, which was reported to the Federal Power Commission last June.

"This survey showed that 100,000 kilowatts of effective capacity can be gained in the Pacific northwest by the simple method of voluntary coordination of all the public and private power plants in the region. Awake to the significance of this power supply, the company immediately went ahead with the preparation of plans for interconnections with the Bonneville-Coulee transmission system at key points, and is now ready to move promptly whenever the word is given."

All the major power companies in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Utah are already operating on an interconnected basis, Mr. Thrasher reported, and establishment of the necessary additional connections with the Bonneville system to effect a complete pooling of power in the region would involve little in the way of time or expense.

SENIOR GUARD EXAMS LISTED

The United States Civil Service commission announces that open competitive examinations will be given soon for the purpose of filling existing and future vacancies in various services throughout the states of Oregon and Washington.

Applications must be on file with the Manager, Eleventh U. S. Civil Service District, Post Office Building, Seattle, Wash., not later than January 12, 1942.

Full information may be obtained from the Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners at any first or second class post office or from the Manager, Eleventh U. S. Civil Service District, Post Office Building, Seattle, Wash.

TOWNIES DEFEAT BOARDMAN TEAM

The Hermiston town team basketball team took a 51 to 35 victory at Boardman Monday night. With Tiller hitting the hemp from all angles, the locals had little difficulty in annexing their first win of the year.

A. Jones was high for Boardman with 29 points, and Tiller was high for Hermiston with 21 points.

| | | |
|--------------|------|----------------|
| Hermiston 51 | 35 | Boardman |
| Ed Morris | 13 | F 6 A. Partlow |
| Johnson 9 | F 20 | A. Jones |
| Tiller 21 | C 3 | Smith |
| Crampton 8 | G | Ekker |
| Michielli | G | 6 Bernil |



POST OFFICE HAS RECORD SEASON

Monday set an all-time high in letter cancelling at the local post office, according to Postmaster W. E. Logan, when 7,200 letters were sent through the machine. A total of 6,300 letters were cancelled Saturday for what was thought to be extremely high but Monday surpassed this figure.

It has been estimated that this year's holiday business, incoming and outgoing, is approximately 3 to 4 times as much as in former years. Mr. Logan's office force is working at top speed in the cramped building to give the best service possible.

SUSPICIOUS MAN PROVES HARMLESS

Fears of sabotage were quickly dispensed with last week when an investigation proved the suspicious character quite harmless. Reports of a man spending considerable time near the telephone lines north of Hermiston prompted a call for local officers.

Upon investigation it was discovered that the man was cooking a breakfast of oatmeal, stating that he had made this ceremony a daily chore for some time.

HOLIDAY PHONE CALLS BANNED

A request to the telephone-using public to "lend us a hand" over the holiday season by not sending greetings by long distance telephone was made today by R. V. McGee of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company.

"Our lines are carrying a tremendous volume of calls—in the last few days the greatest number in history," Mr. McGee said, pointing out that it was necessary, of course, that in all instances the lines readily be available for telephone calls important to defense.

"We want the public to know that we are meeting this emergency with everything we have," he concluded, "and that we deeply appreciate the public's considerate thoughtfulness."

COMMERCIAL CLUB TO MEET JAN. 12

The first meeting of the Hermiston Commercial club in the new year will be held Tuesday evening, January 12, according to George Harkenrider, president. The meeting will be held in the high school with the Rebekahs serving a dinner.

Besides the regular business, an election of officers will be held.

AMBULANCE FUND SUFFICIENT TO WARRANT FUND

The city of Hermiston will soon have an ambulance for use during emergencies. This fact was assured this week when a fund, which started some weeks ago by the Hermiston post, American Legion, reached sufficient size to warrant the ordering of a Ford sedan delivery, equipped for ambulance use.

According to Sam Moore, who is in charge of the fund, a little more money is needed to equip the ambulance. Items needed are blankets, siren, spot lights, road signs, fire extinguisher, and other articles needed during an accident.

The donations to date read as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| American Legion Post No. 37 | \$400.00 |
| Ladies Episcopal Guild | 400.00 |
| Umatilla Proj. Farm Bureau | 100.00 |
| Sam Moore | 10.00 |
| B. E. Getchell | 1.00 |
| Home Economics club and Columbia Grange No. 867 | 25.00 |
| Central Church of Christ | 25.00 |
| Roy Hale | 25.00 |
| Dr. F. B. Belt | 25.00 |
| Lloyd Russell | 10.00 |
| A. H. Norton | 5.00 |
| J. H. Reid | 5.00 |
| The Quillings | 5.00 |
| J. V. Villermore | 5.00 |
| Total | \$1041.00 |

UNLAWFUL SALE OF WHISKEY CHARGED

Don Case, who has operated the Hermiston taxi service and Angel's Rest during the boom activities here, is lodged in the county jail in Pendleton in lieu of a \$1,000 bond. He is charged with unlawful sale of whiskey and has entered a plea of innocence in justice court there.

No further disposition has been made in the case.

NEW DIRECTOR FOR HERMISTON ARRIVES

George Wallace, who has been in charge of physical education activities here for the past months, reported Wednesday that Lee Young of Oregon City will take over the work after the holidays. Mr. Wallace expects to be transferred to southern Oregon where he will be in charge of similar activities.

Mr. Young will work in both Hermiston and Stanfield.

JACK'S CAFE HAS NEW PROPRIETOR

Mrs. Clara Thornburg Sunday took over the management of Jack's Cafe. She has leased the business on a month to month basis from Jack House. The concern has been under the management of Jack Horner for the past year.

Mrs. Thornburg will follow the same policy of business as has been followed in the past.

CITY OF HERMISTON REDUCES WATER TO \$2.00 MINIMUM

WATER SYSTEM IN GOOD SHAPE

Hermiston housewives will have \$12.00 more to spend for Christmas shopping next year. This amount will be saved by the reduction of minimum water rates from \$3.00 to \$2.00 per month. Action to this effect was taken at a meeting of the city council last week.

The following is a rate schedule which will go into effect the first of the year: \$2.00 for the first 3000 gallons; 25c per 1000 for the next 10,000; 20c per 1000 for the next 100,000, and 15c per 1000 gallons for any amount over this number. Only one or two firms in Hermiston will come into the latter bracket.

Charles Taylor, city recorder, stated Tuesday that bills received the first of January would still read \$3.00 as these are December statements. The first reduced bill will come the first of February.

Upon investigation it was discovered that the \$3.00 per month minimum rate has been in effect since February, 1922. The city council at that time estimated that it was necessary to charge this amount in order to make the city water project "pay out." Mayor F. C. McKenzie was in charge of the meeting at that time and council members were: F. C. Woughter, Don Campbell, E. P. Dodd, Carl McNaught, F. V. Prime and H. M. Straw.

Hermiston at the present time is one of the few towns in Oregon that are free from any sort of bonded indebtedness. It is greatly through the water revenue that all debts against the city have been cleared up. The residents of Hermiston are starting the new year with a clean slate and will greatly enjoy paying the reduced monthly water bill.

According to Mr. Taylor, there are somewhat over 300 water meters being used at the present time. The local water apparatus is pumping a little over one million gallons per month, although during the peak of construction at the Ordnance depot, this ratio was raised to between three and four million gallons per 30-day period.

All equipment in use now is in fairly good condition, according to Mr. Taylor. The reservoir atop the butte northwest of Hermiston is being kept in good repair. Frank Reeder, who resides near the water pump and apparatus, is keeping constant vigil in order to protect the water supply from any sort of sabotage.

PETTY THIEVERY BRINGS ARREST

Henry Lee, Hermiston negro, was lodged in the city jail following his arrest Monday night by B. J. Nation, night policeman. Lee is charged with taking clothing and other personal effects from unlocked cars parked on the street. Considerable goods were found at his residence following his arrest.

He was given a 30 day jail sentence and 60 days additional suspended sentence provided he leaves the county.

CREAMERY MEMBERS RECEIVE DIVIDENDS

Directors of the Umatilla Cooperative Creamery recently declared a patronage dividend for the past six months. The concern has just closed a successful year of business and members have enjoyed a fine price for milk and cream. The dividend checks amount to several thousand dollars for the more than 400 members of the creamery throughout the west end of Umatilla and Morrow counties.

The dividends amount to 1 1/2c per pound of cream received at the plant during that time. Checks have been dated December 20 and are being distributed now.

STAY OFF BUTTE IS NEW ORDER

Frank Reeder, guard stationed at the butte northwest of Hermiston, has issued an order for all persons to remain off the butte until further notice. Due to war activities, similar orders are in effect in other localities where water systems are located.

His List of Priorities

