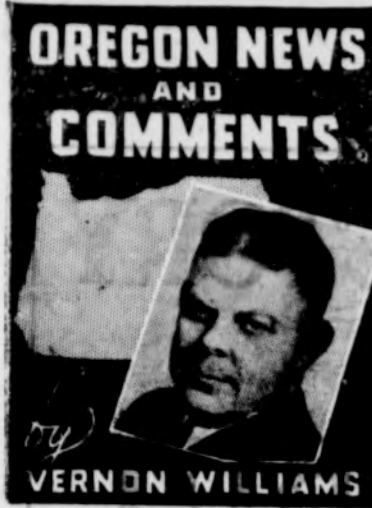




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ALL LOCAL CAST TO GIVE 'FUNZAPOPPIN' HERE MARCH 19 & 20

PROCEEDS TO GO FOR SAVINGS BONDS

PORTLAND—On a trip just completed down the Oregon coast and up through the Willamette valley, the writer found politics, for the most part, still in a state of hibernation. Very little political talk and hardly any activity along that line, although in a few spots the warhorses are showing signs of getting busy. In the larger towns along the coast, which are supported in the main by lumber and fishing, business is very good. In the valley Medford, Albany and Corvallis are beehives of activity. Thousands of workers are flocking into these towns for employment on the huge cantonment projects. Trailer camps, hot dog stands and hot spots are springing up over night.

How will Oregon's 24,051,112 acres of timber land be protected from possible enemy sabotage? What steps are being taken to organize for effective control of forest fires? These questions were being asked by many an Oregon citizen last week following the warning from the West Coast Lumbermen's association that the forests are in danger of destruction from fire set by enemies within our borders.

From Nels Rogers, Oregon state forester, this week came announcement of the formation of the Oregon Forest Defense council, a five-man board which will coordinate the activities of every agency connected with timber ownership or the lumbering business in combating any fire emergency in the forests.

First step of the newly formed council is to immediately survey the manpower and equipment available for fire-fighting. Lumber and timber operators have already pledged their vast reservoir of equipment, and from the timber and sawmill workers has come a pledge that their 67,000 men in Oregon woods and sawmills are available.

In the event of an emergency all of the mills, logging operations and public forest agencies will be subject to call. The state forester's office will act as a huge dispatching center. At the state headquarters in Salem will be fire-fighting equipment for 2,500 men, including tools, pumps, trucks, hose, cooking and bedding gear. This equipment can be delivered any place in western Oregon within a very few hours. This is Oregon's answer to the threat against her 396 billion feet of commercial timber.

The Japanese war is about to break out in another spot. The Japs have had almost a monopoly on the canned crab in the American market. The war has put an end to that, unless there are a few cans on the shelves of dealers. This is the big opportunity Pacific coast fishermen have wanted, capturing the domestic market.

There are some United States senators who do not want wildlife or fish exterminated and they have heard that west coast fishermen are taking crabs by the wholesale. The fish and wildlife service has made a hasty check on the situation (the first time they ever did) and what they discovered has opened their eyes. As a result a bill has been drafted and will soon be introduced which will prevent crabs from being wiped out of existence.

Here is the reason that the Milton-Freewater district, on the Oregon-Washington line, is asking Farm Security administration for a mobile transient farm workers' camp. In less than two months the harvesting will start. To be harvested are 33,000 acres of peas, 2500 acres of prunes, 800 acres of cherries, 125 acres of strawberries, 350 acres of beets, 500 acres of asparagus, 350 acres of tomatoes, 150 acres of cucumbers, and 100 acres of melons. (OPA plans a ceiling on prices of these fruits and vegetables within 60 days). The dairy industry with 9000 head of cattle and 4000 acres of alfalfa also requires additional workers.

Every house available has been rented by workers on the Walla Walla defense operations. Last year the migrant farm workers camped along highways and in orchards, but health authorities now object. An effort is being made to have the abandoned CCC camp at Dayton turned over to FSA to furnish accommodations for migrant labor so urgently needed in this garden spot.

HERMISTON AREA MAY GET DEPOT

John W. Kelly, in his syndicated column written from Washington, D. C., this week caused considerable stir hereabouts by his story stating that a \$10,000,000 quartermasters' depot would be established in the Hermiston-Umatilla area.

The depot, Kelly explained, would be used to divert supplies to either Puget Sound, which now has one depot, or the Columbia river region as the emergency demands. The story carried no authoritative source. No further news concerning the project has been released in Washington with the army engineers in Portland also denying any knowledge of the depot.

A telegram from Rep. Walter Pierce received in Hermiston Sunday also indicated that a warehouse was definitely slated at or near Hermiston. However, to date no definite statement has been made and the entire situation is speculative.

U. S. O. SCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE FOR SUNDAY, MAR. 15

In order to show the public and not merely tell contributors what is being done with the money subscribed to U. S. O. for the benefit of the nation's defenders, a nationwide "open house", one of the greatest events of its kind in history, will be held Sunday, March 15. In everyone of the 418 U. S. O. club houses now in operation, the public will join with service men and defense workers to celebrate.

U. S. O. operations have reached the grand total of 570, which includes mobile canteen and information units at strategic points. Of the 418 club houses, 171 were government built. To meet the demands of greatly increased and widely spread defense forces, U. S. O. has put into operation 247 rented or donated spaces. Popularity of all these recreation centers is emphasized by the fact that more than one million service men visit the club houses each month.

Seventy-five of the club house operations are in the Pacific coast region, comprising California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Idaho. In this region, the governor is honorary chairman in each state.

The citizens of Hermiston are cordially invited to visit their own U. S. O. club house on Sunday, March 15, from 1:00 to 6:00 p. m. At 3:30 there will be a short program for those attending. The building is now almost completely furnished and is open to the community. Since it was first occupied by U. S. O. on Jan. 2, it has seen over 9,000 persons within its walls.

The local committee and U. S. O. personnel urge everyone to come to the "open house Sunday."

BULLDOGS WIN OVER ATHENA

Coach Critchfield's diamond artists won a 2-4 victory over Athena on the local diamond Thursday afternoon.

Play Director



Mrs. George Austin, director of Funzapoppin' which is being sponsored by the Hermiston Rotary club, arrived in Hermiston Sunday morning. Funzapoppin, the thrilling comedy drama, using local talent as its cast will be presented at the Hermiston high school auditorium Thursday and Friday nights, March 19 and 20.

Mrs. Austin comes to Hermiston highly recommended. She has attended the Oklahoma State university at Norman, Okla. She has had special training in dramatics at the Horner Conservatory of the Horner Bureau, Kansas City, Mo., and has also studied dancing at the 20th Century-Fox Studio, Hollywood, Calif.

Mrs. Austin and a committee from the Rotary club have plans well in hand for Funzapoppin.

EVANGELISTS TO BE HERE SUNDAY

An evangelistic team will be at the Central Church of Christ Sunday morning beginning a Pre-Easter revival meeting. The team consists of James A. Pointer, evangelist, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. U'Renn, singing evangelists and musicians. Evangelist Pointer has had many years experience in this field and as a pastor. He is pastor of the Selah, Wash., Church of Christ at the present time.

The U'Renns come well recommended, conducting many programs over K.J.R. and K.M.O. in Seattle. Mr. U'Renn was program director and chief announcer of a Seattle station for more than two years. He is a fine lyric tenor and Mrs. U'Renn is a mandolin artist.

The services will begin each evening promptly at 8:00 o'clock. A basket dinner will be served in the church basement following the Sunday morning service. All services are for the public.

COLUMBIA H. E. C. TO MEET AT DIXSONS

The Columbia Home Economics club will meet this Saturday at the home of Mrs. Elmer Dixon instead of at Mrs. Corman's home as was formerly announced.

All members and grange ladies are invited to attend.

FOLLETS GET CALL FROM HONOLULU

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Follett and family received a long distance telephone call at 8:00 o'clock Monday evening from their son Bob, who is in the army and stationed in the Hawaiian Islands.

The Folletts state that his voice was very clear and that it sounded like he was in the same room. Bob said that he was fine and the Islands were grand. Also he mentioned to be sure and tell all of his friends "hello" for him.

SENIOR CLASS TO PRESENT "THE BAT" FRIDAY EVENING

Of all the mystery plays which have been produced on the American stage, "The Bat" has proven to be outstanding. Incident is piled on incident with skill and plausibility, and it is impossible to know who the real criminal is until the final curtain. The play is founded on Mary Roberts Rinehart's famous story, "The Circular Staircase," and is proved to be one of the most successful mysteries the American stage has ever known.

In the endeavor to maintain the high standard they have set, the senior class will present "The Bat" Friday, March 13, at 8:00 o'clock at the high school. The play is under the direction of Miss Constance Luehrs.

A brief synopsis follows: Cornelia Van Gorder, a maiden lady of sixty who rents the summer home of a New York banker, who had been reported dead in Colorado some months before. She is warned that mysterious things are happening around the house, but she refuses to move. About this time it is discovered that a large sum of money is missing from the dead banker's bank.

Immediately the suspicion is aroused that, far from being dead, he has stolen the money, hidden it in a secret chamber in his house, and is awaiting a good chance to sneak back and get it. Four different people are after the money—the bank cashier, wrongfully accused of taking it; a detective engaged by Miss Van Gorder to clear up the mystery; a doctor friend and supposed confederate of the missing banker, and "The Bat," a notorious thief who has long eluded the police. There are mysterious murders, shivery rappings and many false leads for the audience to follow before the mystery is finally cleared.

The cast follows: Cornelia Van Gorder, an elderly spinster—Phyllis Sires; Mr. Anderson, the detective—Raymond Holloman; Dale Ogden, Miss Van Gorder's niece—Donna Saylor; Brooks, the gardener—Bob Miller; Doctor Wells—Jim Naughton; Lizzie, an elderly maid—Kay Joyce Ritchie; Billie, the butler—Lester Wilcox; Reginald Beresford—Don Cellers; Richard Fleming—John Allen, the unknown—Bill Penney.

Police Conference at Pendleton

The F.B.I. is sponsoring a quarterly police conference for police officers at the Vert auditorium in Pendleton on Saturday, March 21. The conference will begin at 10 a. m.

STANFIELD PROJECT PIONEER PASSES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

J. M. RICHARDS IS WELL KNOWN HERE

J. M. Richards, 61, the first resident settler on the Stanfield project, passed away Sunday in St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton following an extended illness. Funeral services were held Tuesday from the Presbyterian church in Stanfield with Rev. B. F. Mitchell officiating. Bomboy's of Pendleton was in charge of arrangements. He had been in failing health for approximately eight years.

Mr. Richards, very well known in Hermiston, was active in community work and in the grange, being instrumental in organizing several co-operatives. He was a graduate of the University of Michigan and practiced law in Michigan. In 1909, with his parents, he came to Stanfield and settled on what is now known as the Riley place.

The family raised fruit and alfalfa and was generally known as one of the most extensive farm producers in this area. Later Mr. Richards operated a garage in Echo and a hardware store in Stanfield. Though he failed in health, Mr. Richards was an outstanding student of economic and world affairs, his opinion carrying considerable weight among his many friends. Mrs. Richards is a former school teacher in Stanfield.

As a hobby Mr. Richards wrote poetry. Included were "The American Way," "Love of Country," and others revealing his liberal philosophy of life.

Mr. Richards is survived by his widow; two daughters, Mrs. S. L. Chapin of Seattle and Patricia Richards of Stanfield, and the following brothers, Charles and Url Richards of Plainwell, Mich.; Glen Richards of Condon, and Ralph Richards of Hermiston.

Mr. Richards was an outstanding character and will be greatly missed by his many friends.

STANFIELD PROJECT PIONEER PASSES

F. B. Stuart, who for 10 years operated the Stanfield Hotel, passed away Wednesday at the age of 87. He was a pioneer of this project and a charter member of the grange. He formerly resided in Portland and at one time was the mayor of Gresham.

He was born June 6, 1855, in South China, Maine, and later moved to Monticello, Minn. On September 29, 1882, he married Isabel Head.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. F. B. Stuart; one daughter, Mrs. Harold C. Kerr of St. Paul; a grandson, Stuart Kerr of Burlington, Iowa, and a sister, Mrs. Lillian L. Wurtz, Woodland, Wash.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 2:00 p. m. at the Stanfield Presbyterian church with A. W. Prann in charge. The service will be read by Rev. B. F. Mitchell with the grange assisting.

OFFICIALS HERE ON SEWER WORK

Frank T. Evans, Defense Public Works representative, and Wesley Grow, construction engineer D.P.W., were in Hermiston Tuesday discussing the proposed sewer and water projects here with Mayor F. C. McKenzie and City Attorney W. J. Warner. Although some delay is being experienced in clearing details of the project, it is expected that bids will be called in the very near future.

The men were also guests at the Commercial club meeting Tuesday noon at the U.S.O. building.

NEW BUS SERVICE TO DEPOT BEGUN

Roy Duncan has started a bus service to the Umatilla ordnance depot. His route begins at Stanfield, comes to Hermiston and on to the depot and back the same route. His schedule calls for service for all three shifts.

Notices in regards to the bus transportation have been posted about the city. It will save considerable wear and tear on tires for private auto owners who have been driving their cars to the job.

High School Senior Class Play Cast



Pictured above are the members of the senior play cast who will present "The Bat" Friday night at 8:00 o'clock in the high school auditorium. Front row: Lester Wilcox, Kay Joyce Ritchie, Phyllis Sires, Donna Saylor, Jim Naughton, Miss Luehrs. Back row: Don Cellers, Bob Miller, Ray Holloman, John Allen, Bill Penney.