

Small Community Contains 'Young At Heart' Citizens

Ryerwood, Wash. — (U.P.) — The 250 residents of this private little town can stake claim to being the most "young-at-heart" citizens in all America.

Ryerwood, once the logging capital of southwestern Washington, now is a town inhabited only by old folks. The youngest resident is 55 years old.

The new Ryerwood is located on 220 acres of fertile land in the northwest part of Cowlitz county. To live there, a person must be retired and have a modest fixed income of not less than \$125 nor more than \$250 a month.

It's a busy little community. The sound of hammer and saw on wood throughout the days lets the visitor know Ryerwood isn't a rest haven for the aging.

Work To Be Busy
The people of Ryerwood work because they want to be busy. Houses are being remodeled and painted, lawns and gardens are growing and other improvements are being made—and by the old-

sters. There's a big sign that expresses the town's feeling about itself, it reads:

"Ryerwood . . . not just more years to our life, but more life to our years."

The feeling in Ryerwood is that of genuine neighborly folks. Take the "boy" of the town, for instance. He's 55-year-old Kenneth Beckwith. He's the town's only barber and he retired after 30 years in the Army. He also is secretary of the fire department.

Likes Town
"There's nothing like living in Ryerwood," said Beckwith, who claims he didn't intend to work when he moved here, but there was a need so he keeps his barber shop open four days a week.

As for the fire department, it has two fire engines and 25 volunteer firemen. Recently a fire in one of the town's houses brought firemen out in a rush. They extinguished the flames quickly, preventing any serious

damage to the home.

One of the busiest and most contented residents is 72-year-old Albert Fitschen, a retired mortician. He no longer worries about putting people away. He spends his time making violins, tuning pianos and sharpening saws. His hobbies are archery, guns and playing the violin in the town's string orchestra.

In Charge
The man in charge of the town is Col. W. E. Brandt, a retired banker, who is president of Senior Estates.

He said "the reincarnation of Ryerwood was to make it a place where retired persons with modest incomes could own their own homes and live with persons of their own general age group."

Outside of contract and policy matters, the residents of Ryerwood run the affairs of their community.

One of the favorite affairs of the community is the "coffee walk." Harry Jordan built a walkway behind his and his neighbor's homes. He put up a sign inviting one and all in for coffee at any hour of the day. The pot usually is perking all the time.

"Mail call" is a popular time in Ryerwood. Just about everyone goes to the post office at the same time each day to pick up his mail.

On Sunday, the church is full. The Rev. John L. Magoon is the town's retired Baptist minister. He insists he really is retired, but he does preach occasionally. Otherwise, "outside" pastors hold the services.

Lake Prize Project
One of the community's prize projects is Lake Ryderwood, a man-made lake covering six

Assistant Interior Secretary Resigns

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower today accepted the resignation of Assistant Secretary of Interior Orme Lewis, effective Sept. 15.

Lewis wrote the President that "compelling personal considerations made it impossible for me to postpone any longer the practice of law" in Phoenix.

Mr. Eisenhower accepted the resignation "regretfully" and told Lewis he has "effectively contributed to the development of comprehensive, human programs for strengthening the resources of our nation." Lewis has served in the administration since early 1953.

acres and stocked with legal-size trout by the state game department. Fishing, with the season starting in July, is for Ryerwood residents only, unless they invite friends.

A person with a fixed income in the specified categories can live in Ryerwood quite inexpensively. A four-room dwelling and lot costs \$2,500, or \$200 down and \$20 a month. A five-room house sells for \$3,000 or \$250 down and \$25 a month, and a six-room dwelling sells for \$4,500 or \$300 down and \$25 a month. There are 178 houses in the town, 118 of which already are taken.

Other expenses amount to \$50 a month for garbage collection, street lighting, unmetered water service and sewage disposal.

Road Construction Delays Traffic

Salem — (U.P.) — State Highway Engineer R. H. Baldock said today that highway construction and maintenance work was causing some traffic interruption in several parts of the state.

He listed these projects as causing some delays:

Columbia river highway — One-way traffic west of Pendleton.

The Dalles-California highway — Construction 26 to 40 miles south of junction with Willamette highway.

Pacific highway — Construction five miles south of Yoncalla, and construction between Roseburg and Myrtle Creek.

Coast highway — Construction on Depoe Bay-Otter Rock section; detour 2.45 miles on old pavement five miles south of Winchester Bay; construction from two to 14 miles south of Port Orford, and construction between Glenden and Lincoln Beach.

Willamette highway — Construction 1.7 mile east of Oakridge.

Cascade highway — Construction from Portland south city limits to Clackamas.

Tiller-Trail secondary highway — Construction 28.4 miles to 32.4 miles southeast of Canyonville.

Paulina highway — Construction from junction with Ochoco highway to 15 miles east.

The U. S. Forestry Service celebrates its 50th anniversary in 1955.

Back-to-School!



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LOGGER KILLED
McMinnville — (U.P.) — A 27-year-old logger Willer Roy Hicks was killed Monday when hit by a falling snag while working near Carlton, Coroner Glen Macy reported.

Wednesday, August 3, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

Construction Starts On New Water System

Everett DenHerder, local contractor, yesterday started installation of an \$86,000 water system for the Grandview Water district, according to A. D. Harvey, engineer for the district.

Most of the pipe for the job has been received, and two separate crews are now at work, and rapid progress is expected, Harvey said. The job is to be completed this fall.

Funds for the water system come from a bond issue authorized by voters of the district earlier this year, and from water connection fees charged users

Agriculture Committee To Meet at Pendleton

Washington — (U.P.) — Chairman Allen Ellender (D-La.) today announced the Senate Agriculture Committee would meet in Pendleton, Ore., Oct. 31 to give farmers of the area a chance to tell how to improve federal farm programs.

Ellender said the Pendleton hearing would be part of a "grass roots" tour by the committee.

The fees are now payable to the district treasurer, John Ahern, either at his residence or at the Art Center on East Main st.

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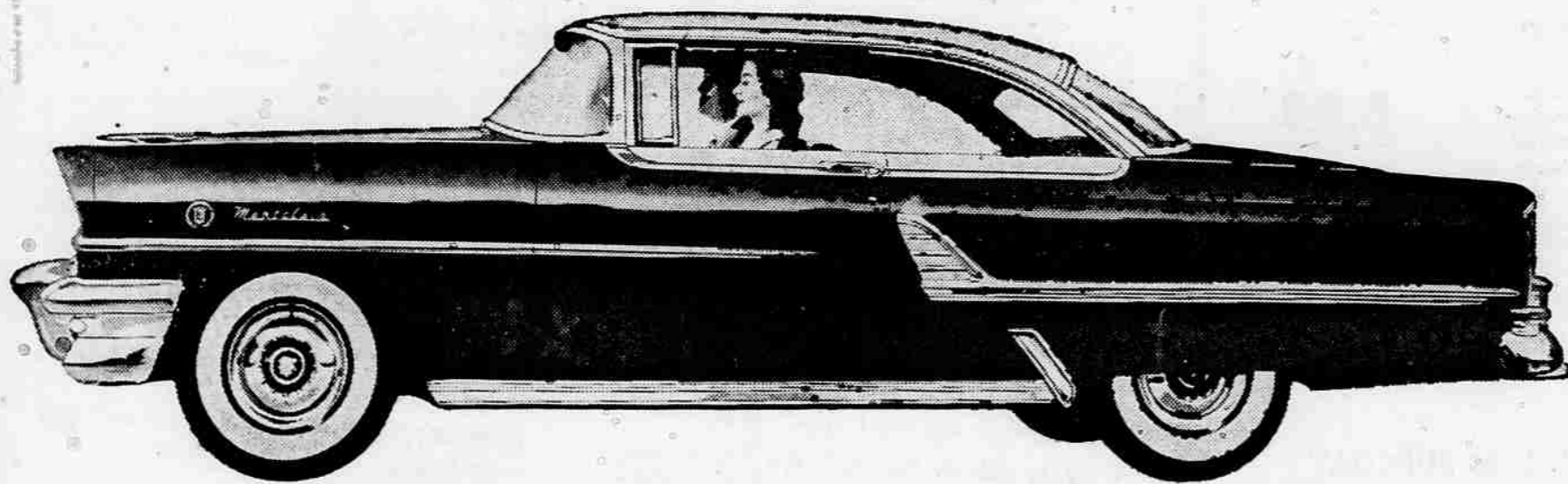


JAY CLARKE Famous Mentalist is shown here with Joan Fontaine, Hollywood Movie Star, during one of his California engagements. Mr. Clarke is currently appearing at the Craterian Theatre, where he will hold a ladies only matinee on the stage tomorrow (Thursday) from 1:30 to 2:30. The screen attraction following Mr. Clarke is a special showing of "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" starring, Cary Grant and Myrna Loy plus John Derek in "The Outcast."

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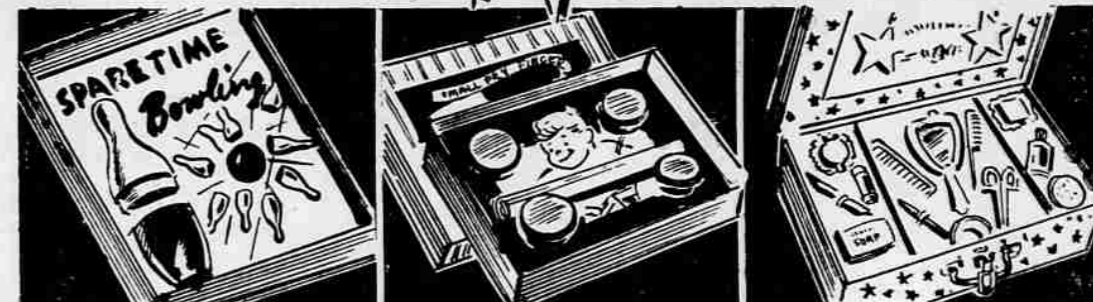
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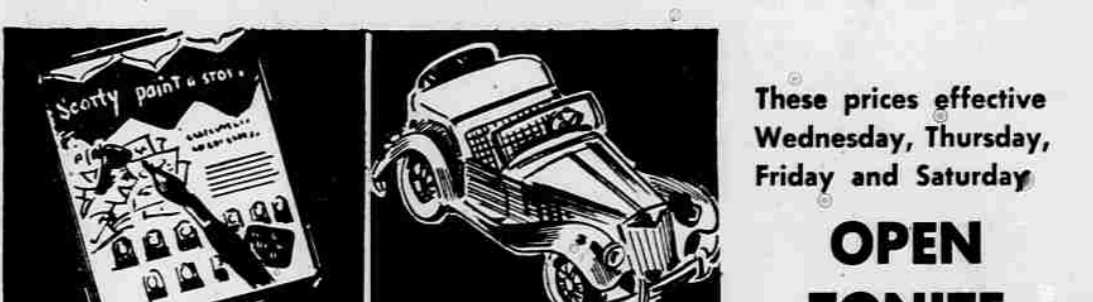
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