



TOO BIG—The little Mexican burro above was too big for the annual Pear Blossom festival parade scheduled April 21. Animals entered in the parade can not be larger than a St. Bernard dog. Measuring the burro is Gene Ferrel, chairman of the festival, and Bill Laurine, who planned to enter the "pet" in the parade. The burro was borrowed from Les Taylor, Rogue valley rancher. More than 240 valley organizations have been invited to participate in the queens contest of the festival, and more than 340 groups and organizations have been invited to enter floats. Parade entry blanks are available at the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce office, 5 South Riverside ave. Ferrel reminded participants to register floats and entries prior to the April 19 deadline. Plans are expected to be completed soon.

—(Landis-Shangle Photo.)



POWER FROM SPACE—Charles E. Seavey, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company public relations representative, will discuss power from cosmic space at Medford meetings this week. He will show how the solar battery, in his right hand, can provide power for a transistor type radio, held in his left hand, and other electrically powered items. He will speak at the Medford Kiwanis club at noon Wednesday, and at the Medford Lions club Wednesday night.

Solar Battery Topic Of Speaker This Week

Present and future wonders of the Bell solar battery, the first man-made device to efficiently convert sunlight into electrical energy, will be described at two meetings in Medford this week by Charles E. Seavey, Pacific Telephone company public relations representative from Portland.

Seavey will talk on "Power from Cosmic Space" at the Kiwanis club meeting Wednesday noon, and the Medford Lions club Wednesday night. Jack Creager, local manager of the company, said Seavey may schedule talks before several school assemblies during the week he will be in Medford and Ashland.

Powers Telephone
Seavey will show how the solar battery can be used to power a telephone system, small electrical motors and relay systems, and a miniature size transistor type radio, smaller than a package of cigarettes, Creager said.

The solar battery was developed in the Bell Telephone laboratories in New Jersey.

The solar converter is a razor-blade thin disc of silicon (purified sand), which is coated to one ten-thousands of an inch with boron. Boron is a non-metallic element occurring only in combination, as in borax or boric acid. The action of light hitting the boron-coated silicon disc produces energy, Creager said.

Improved Model
An improved model of the first battery is now in operation in Americus, Ga., providing power for a rural telephone system.

According to Seavey, present models are 11 per cent efficient, equal to the best steam or gas engines in existence.

Seavey has been with Pacific Telephone in Oregon for 32 years. He was born in Illinois, educated in Oregon, and now lives in Portland.

BUSY JOB

Alberta Lea, Minn. —(U.P.) Highway patrolman Rolland Falk drove to a spot in Highway 16 to investigate a report that an auto had skidded off the road. He not only found an auto in the ditch but while he was there another car slid off the road and two collisions occurred.

Salem Ranch Sold For About \$200,000

Salem —(U.P.)— Sale of the 500-acre John J. Roberts ranch southwest of here for an estimated \$200,000 was announced today.

Buyers were Mr. and Mrs. George Tokola of Vancouver, Wash., and Mr. and Mrs. John Harvey of Fossil. The Tokolas will manage the ranch.

Roberts will retain ownership of his house, store and several other buildings at Roberts Station.

April FUEL!

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East Side Market Construction to Start Tomorrow

Construction of a new building to house the East Side Market will get under way Monday. Tom Shepherd, an officer of the business, announced today. The market will be one of the most modern in the state, he added.

The new building will be situated on the rear of the lot where the present store now is located. Business will continue in the present building until the new one is ready for occupancy, planned for July 15. The space opened by demolition of the old structure will be used for parking.

Ed Chesney is manager of the store.

Move Shoe Shop
During construction a shoe shop in the present building will be moved to the new structure and the old shop will be torn down. The former location of Reliable Cleaners will be taken down later.

The new store will be 75 by 85 feet and will be of blocks with brick and plate glass facing. The rear 20 feet will be two stories high, the second floor to be used for offices, light storage and rest rooms.

Services to be added in the new store will be a complete delicatessen shop, frozen food department, fancy foods and groceries. All ready to serve foods will be featured in the delicatessen.

Bessonette and Graff are contractors.

4-H Club News

Southwest Poultry Club
The Southwest Poultry club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Al Smith, 1306 South Columbus ave.

Another by-law was made and accepted making the total of five that the club has.

Each member discussed the breed and the amount of chickens they had.

We had a test on the subject of poultry.

Norman Renner Reporter

New Base Rate Schedules For Worker Compensation

Salem —(U.P.)— New base rate schedules for workmen's compensation with an over-all rate increase of 1.75 per cent have been announced by William A. Callahan, chairman of the Oregon State Industrial Accident Commission.

The new rates go into effect July 1 with reductions in 94 classifications of industry, no change in 78 classifications and raises in 60 classifications adding up to the over-all increase.

Injury Reduction Needed
Callahan warned that the new rates would not carry the cost of the program unless there was a substantial reduction in the number of injuries in Oregon industry.

"Future rates increases are inevitable unless those classifications of industry showing high claim cost ratios improve their safety records," he said.

Combined effect of the over-all increase together with experience rating reductions will result in a moderate increase in total contributions from employers, Callahan said.

The 1955 legislature increased benefits an over-all 7.05 per cent. The resultant increase in claim costs has necessitated the in-

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