

Out on a Limb

By BOB WALTERS

A Guided Tour
When we first came to southern Oregon a few months ago, we saw a sign alongside highway 99 which pointed in the general direction of a good-sized chunk of snow-capped rock. "Mt. McLoughlin," the sign read.

Thinking this a handy bit of information, we filed it mentally and a few days later commented to an acquaintance about how beautiful we thought Mt. McLoughlin was. The comment was received with a cold-eyed stare.

"You mean Mt. Pitt," snapped the friend. End of conversation.

Since then, we've been unable to get a reasonable explanation of why we should call Mt. McLoughlin Mt. Pitt. Decided, however, that it's probably wiser to go along with the Oregonians of long standing. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. Or something like that.

But a few problems remain. We're expecting visits from a relative or friend or two this summer and feel we should have some pat answers for the questions that are bound to come.

The one about the mountain will be easy. We'll just glare at the questioner for the proper period of time (at least a minute and a half) and say, "It's Mt. Pitt." Nothing more.

Other questions could be trickier, though, so we've worked out a few replies:
Visitor: "How did Klamath Falls get its name? I don't see a waterfall."

Walters: "Well, there was this little tribe of Indians living down around Los Angeles, see, and they decided they'd pack up and move. They were losing about two ponies a day on the freeway. So the Indians—there were 43 of them, plus a Chinese cook and an Italian public relations man—told their leader, a big, burly guy named Klamath, that they'd follow him until he was too tired to go any further. They agreed to make their new home wherever he stopped.

"So they walked for days and days and finally ole Klamath couldn't take another step. He dropped flat on his face from exhaustion.

"Look," whooped one of the tribe, 'Klamath falls!'"

"And that's where they settle, see?"

Visitor: "Oh, Well, how about Grants Pass?"
Walters (with a yawn): "Simple. There was this guy named Grant, see, who was a private in the Union army during the Civil war. He was stationed back East somewhere and one day his commanding officer told him to take the week end off because the troops were going into battle pretty soon.

"Now Grant wasn't overjoyed about the possibility of getting shot in the head, so he married his grade school sweetheart and they climbed in her covered wagon (which was why he married her; he couldn't afford a wagon on a private's salary) and they headed West. They came to Oregon, built a little cabin up the highway a piece and started having little Grants.

"Pretty soon other travelers and their families began settling there and now it's a thriving community. And all because the army gave Grant a pass!"

Visitor: "Say, that's really interesting. Now tell me about Gold Hill—did they really find gold there?"

Walters: "No, the name's a mistake, in fact.

"Many, many years ago this area was having probably the coldest winter in its history and the coldest place was about 13 miles north of Medford. No one even wanted to go up there, because everyone who did came back saying that it was 'just colder'n h—!'"

"A lot of people have made their home there and the winters have been pretty mild since then, of course, but that description of the area seemed to stick. People started running their words together, though, and pretty soon everyone was calling it Gold Hill."

Visitor: "Amazing! You know, I just can't understand how you've learned so much about southern Oregon in such a short time!"

Walters: "Easy. I'm a liar."

Lone Pine—Lone Pine safety patrol members went to the Medford police station on a field trip recently. They were given instructions on safety and how to prevent accidents.



THE JIM FOSSENS AND THEIR PREFABRICATED HOME Houses Go Up in Double Quick Time

Applegate Resident Builds Prefab Homes in Spare Time

By MAUDE ZIEGLER
Mail Tribune Correspondent
Applegate Valley—There is no stormy weather that is going to beat Jim Fossen out of a day's work.

He is a builder of houses in the winter, as a side line, and does his own prefabricating in the comfort of a shop. When the weather clears he sets the house up and has the roof on in a few days. Fossen works at logging for eight or nine months of the year, and has carpentry as a winter occupation.

He doesn't know just how nor when he got started at

the business of prefabrication, but ever since his year each of shop and mechanical drawing in high school in Aikin, Minn., he has studied builders' magazines and has gained experience at remodeling and building from time to time.

Secret of Plan
He says the secret of his unique building plan is the "W" truss rafters allowing ceiling joists and rafters built in one unit. This allows flexibility in placing partitions because the trusses are self-supporting.

He builds the sides in panels

four by eight feet or eight by eight with openings for doors and windows and spray paints the priming coat on exterior walls. This is done in a shop owned by his father, Ed Fossen, Upper Applegate dairy man, and all the walls can be set up in one day.

The Fossen homes go up in double quick time, too, because Fossen's family, including his wife, his parents, and his brother, Don, turn out in the old fashioned way in lending a hand.

Pre-Cuts Lumber

Fossen has built two rental houses at Ruch, and is starting to build his own home there, and since it is a split level design and too complicated for pre-fabrication, he is pre-cutting the lumber. His next job will be to build his own shop on his Ruch property which he purchased from the Buckley estate. He also has designed and built two pre-cut rental houses for his father.

Fossen, who is 31, is employed with T. W. McFadden, Timber Products contract logger. The Fossens came here from Minnesota eight years ago. They have a son and daughter, aged nine and eight.

District 6 Schools Work On Choral Music Program

By MARY KELL
Mail Tribune Correspondent
Gold Hill—Charles A. Meyer, superintendent of District 6 schools, has announced that he is interested in developing a choral music curriculum program that will coordinate with the elementary schools throughout the district, which includes Central Point, Sams Valley and Gold Hill.

Principals of the various schools and music teachers met with him recently to discuss preliminary plans for such a program, giving consideration to the classroom singing aspect. The committee includes Russell Carr, Sams Valley Elementary school; Bill Brewster, Jewett Elementary school; George Johns, Central Point Elementary and Junior High schools; Arthur Straus, Crater High school, and Gilbert A. Mack, Patrick and Hanby Elementary schools in Gold Hill. Music teachers Mrs. Ruth Brewster, Marvin Throne, Mrs. Joanne Sousa and Norman Carothers, as well as Bob Lawrence, as a music consultant, from the county office complete the committee.

Program Suggested
The superintendent suggested that a program be worked out that would help to keep the same enthusiasm among children of all ages as is found in the primary department. He said the proposed program would coordinate classroom singing in grades one through eight throughout the district, and he wants to coordinate vocal music in the junior high grades so that it will correlate with the Crater High school program.

The Oregon Education system recommends that music should be a continuing program in the elementary grades, with consideration given to the variation of interests and abilities.

The committee indicated they would prefer a program that would include supervised music in each classroom, with the classroom teacher acting the role of instructor for the morning opening exercises, and instruction by the regular music teacher twice a week for classroom music. The special music teacher of each school would continue to direct the choral groups which already are a part of each school's curriculum.

Second Meeting Held
A second planning meeting was held in the band room at Crater High school last Wednesday by the regular music teachers of District 6 schools to outline a program that will

be presented for approval at the next meeting of the District 6 Music Curriculum committee, which will be held in the band room at Crater High school this Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

Marvin Throne, music teacher at Hanby Elementary school, said other music teachers who are preparing the new curriculum program are Mrs. Joan Sousa, Central Point Elementary school and Mrs. Lorna Meyer, Junior High school; Mrs. Ruth Brewster, Sams Valley and Jewett Elementary schools; and Mrs. Marie Brannock, Patrick Elementary school. Bob Lawrence also met with them last Wednesday.

A combined chorus consisting of elementary and junior high pupils from the different schools of District 6 will present a Music Festival on May 13 at the Central Point Elementary and Junior High schools.

SC Fire Chief Warns of Hazards

Shady Cove—Athel Dudley, acting fire chief of the Shady Cove-Trail fire department, said he would like to remind residents to see that any grass around buildings and all other fire hazards are removed before the hot, dry summer sets in when the fire danger will be at its peak.

Those who have a great deal of dry grass to burn are requested to get in touch with the volunteer fire department and arrange to have some help standing by. Another aid in preventing fires, the chief said, is to see that all old bottles and other pieces of broken glass, and tin cans are picked up since many grass fires are started from sun rays reflecting on them.

BF Residents Meet To Discuss Hazards

Butte Falls—The Butte Falls town council met recently with property owners to discuss probable fire hazards to the town with the fire season rapidly approaching.

A decision was made to burn all brush and waste materials from the old railroad line to the property lines circling Butte Falls. Volunteer help is requested and several volunteers have worked to get the project underway.

- BOB WALTERS, Regional Editor**
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 Tiller—Drew—Viola Rogers
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Regional News

IV Firemen Build New Firehall

By KATHERINE SCOTT
Mail Tribune Correspondent
Illinois Valley—The Illinois Valley volunteer fire department is erecting a new and larger firehouse at a site one fourth of a mile east of Cave Junction on the Oregon Caves highway.

There are three units in the valley and each has its own equipment and members. One is located in Cave Junction, one in Selma and one in O'Brien. Members in the valley department number in the 40s.

All units hold a combina-

tion business and social meeting the first Tuesday of each month and each unit has an individual monthly meeting. Selma unit meets the second Wednesday of each month, Cave Junction the third Tuesday and O'Brien on the third Friday.

Dates for drills are set at the unit meetings and the board of directors meet the last Tuesday of each month.

The department also is starting a training program for men 18-21 years of age who are interested in becoming firemen. Training sessions

will be conducted in the O'Brien firehall the second Tuesday of each month.

Regional Calendar

Applegate Valley—The Applegate Farm Bureau group will hold their first meeting at the home of the president, Martin Grier, at 8 p.m. tomorrow. All members and persons wishing to become members are invited.

Butte Falls PTA Stages Program to Raise Funds

Butte Falls—The Butte Falls PTA recently held its annual money making project for the year, a combination Spaghetti dinner, slave sale and auction, at Butte Falls High school.

William Harris. Everett Elrod of Shady Cove served as auctioneer for the evening.

Randall Perkins showed forest service movies and William B. Hunter, superintendent of Butte Falls schools, was master of ceremonies for the evening. Remainder of the program consisted of two numbers by the Mothersingers, a piano selection by Mrs. Leth Meadows and a duet by Mrs. Virgil Conley and Mrs.

Project chairmen included Andy Hamstra and Leonard Stratton, slave sale and auction; Mrs. Leonard Stratton, publicity; Mrs. Harry Dalton, dinner and cooking; Mrs. Virgil Conley and Mrs. Henry Tygart, purchasing; Mrs. Duane Burton, set-up; Mrs. Bill Lytle, serving, and Mrs. Randall Perkins, decorations. Proceeds will be used to meet budget requirements for the year.

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Rural Reflections

By MAUDE ZIEGLER
Applegate Valley—Dana Gearhardt is wondering how she is going to go about making kangaroo steaks and kangaroo tail brawn as she studies the recipes in a cook book received from her letter friend in southern Australia, where kangaroo is a favorite wild meat.

Her cook book is in the form of calendars with puddings, cakes and meat dishes for every day of the year. The Australians make their hamburgers by mixing a preparation similar to American meat loaf, Dana says.

DEMONSTRATION GIVEN

Lone Pine—The Lone Pine school staff met recently with Oak Grove and Wilson school staffs at Wilson school for an artificial respiration demonstration on mouth-to-mouth breathing. The demonstration was given by a representative from the California Oregon Power company.

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