



BUBBLE BURSTS — For several weeks this spring a bubble, which appeared in the asphalt pavement in the driveway of the Ralph Ellis home at 527 Putnam st., Medford, kept growing larger and larger. Finally, one day recently the bubble burst, disclosing six large mushrooms. Diameter of the larger mushrooms was estimated at four inches, and the stems "as big as broomsticks." What makes the natural phenomena even a little more unusual is that the asphalt, according to the Ellises, has been there for about eight years and this is the first time that growing material has appeared.

SCHOOL NEWS

Medford High School

(Edited by Sue Elder. Staff: Ralph Younger, Marlene Klym, Charlotte Brown, Ed Radloff, Mike Callan, and Nancy Duncan.)

Approximately 15 members of the Natural History club and five adults made a trip to the lava beds in northern California recently. The group spent one night camped at overnight facilities, and explored the many caves. A ranger-naturalist guided the group during most of the outing.

Recently the MHS yearbooks, "The Crater," were distributed to students who ordered them. About 1,500 books were ordered, and about 1,450 have been issued so far.

The Future Nurses club attended a "Career Day" at Sacred Heart hospital recently. Students were taken on a tour through the hospital, and had an opportunity of observing

various hospital techniques and equipment. A film on medical equipments and refreshments concluded the day's activities.

Iowa tests were administered to seniors of MHS recently in the library, academic center, and in various other rooms in the school. Since the tests took two days to complete, seniors were dismissed from their regular class schedules for the two required days.

Three Medford students won awards at the State Foreign Language Field day in Eugene last Saturday. Approximately 670 students from the state attended. Valerie Knights won second prize in second year Spanish; Craig Savage received honor a b l e mention in second year Spanish, and Jerry Wright received honorable mention in third year Spanish.

The Future Teacher's of America club honored the MHS faculty at a reception in

the home economics department last week.

Medford High's acting troupe, Thespians, are trying to raise money in order to send eight students to the National Thespian festival in Indiana this summer. "Anastasia," the last play presented by the group, and contributions by local merchants, have cut the remaining necessary figure to about \$200.

The group held a sno-cone sale at the Medford Shopping Center and a plane wash at the airport recently. The annual Thespian award and installation banquet was held May 17 at Ping's.

STEEL OUTPUT DIPS
New York—(UPI)—The nation's output of steel dropped another 5.8 per cent last week to the lowest level since April 1, 1961, the American Iron & Steel Institute reported Monday. Production for the period slipped to 1,662,000 tons from 1,765,000 a week earlier.

Federal Program Offers Aid To Towns for Development

Editor's note: How does a town or community go about taking advantage of the many federal programs designed to help them build a park, a new waterworks, a flood control project or other facilities? It is fairly easy when you know the procedure as explained in the following dispatch.

By NORMAN RUNNION

Washington—(UPI)—The town fathers of Clute, Texas, surveyed their community's needs not long ago and decided they could use a new main street, a park with soft-ball and baseball diamonds for the kids, and a better sewage system and waterworks.

Clute, which lies 50 miles south of Houston in Brazoria county, is only a speck on the map of Texas.

But the community of 5,000 citizens—and countless other towns like it from Oregon to Maine—is as important to the U.S. Community Facilities administration as Laos is to the State Department.

Therefore at 7:30 p.m. last Jan. 29, the Clute city council met and adopted a resolution authorizing the filing of an "application for public facility loan" with the Housing and Home Finance agency—the parent body of the Community Facilities administration.

As a result, Clute is going to have its asphalt-covered main street repaved with cement. A park will be built, complete with two ball diamonds. Waterworks and sewage facilities will be improved.

To Be Paid By Bonds

All of this will be paid for by bonds purchased by private investors under a procedure set up by the federal government. In many ways it is typical of what state and local governments can do if they know how to take advantage of countless federal programs available to them.

According to the U.S. budget, federal financial assistance to state and local governments in 1963, under existing or proposed programs, will total an estimated \$9.9 billion. A 1961 Congressional study listed 35 major programs of federal grants-in-aid to state

and local governments, namely:

Aid to state soldiers homes; agriculture extension work; agricultural marketing services; agricultural research; airport construction; assistance to state marine schools; child welfare services; civil defense contributions; crippled children's services; defense educational activities.

Distribution of educational materials for the blind; do-

nation of surplus agricultural commodities; employment service and unemployment compensation; fish and wildlife restoration and management; flood prevention and watershed protection.

Other Programs

Highway construction; hospital and medical facilities survey and construction; library services for rural areas; major disaster relief; maternal and child health services; public assistance; public health services; low-rent public housing; resident instruction in land-grant colleges.

School construction in federally affected areas; school operation and maintenance in federally affected areas; school lunch programs; special milk; slum clearance and urban renewal; state and private forestry cooperation; urban planning; vocational education; vocational rehabilitation; waste treatment facilities; and water pollution control.

Many towns, when they want federal help, turn to the Communities Facilities administration. The CFA paid out nearly \$10 million in fiscal 1961 through its four programs: college housing loans; advances for public works planning; public facility loans; and senior citizens housing loans.

IN EXERCISE

Five members of the Army National Guard from southern Oregon are participating in Exercise Mesa Drive, a joint Army-Air Force training maneuver, at the Yakima, Wash., Firing center.

They are Specialist Four Frank L. Gidney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Gidney, 848 Dakota st.; Pfc. John R. Pool, son of Mrs. Corinne V. Keith, 902 Queen Anne ave.; and Pfc. Arlyn K. Granger, son of Mrs. Nellie M. Granger, 2303 Spring st., all Medford; Pfc. Willie T. Erwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Erwin, 3624 Williams highway, Grants Pass; and Pfc. Frank D. Coleman, husband of Juanita Coleman, Merlin, Ore.

To qualify, a town—such as Clute—must have a population of less than 50,000. These communities can get loans from the CFA where they wouldn't be able to do so through private institutions.

Clute's needs were rather typical. Incorporated in 1952, it serves primarily as a residential area for those who work in the Dow Chemical Co. plant eight miles away. The population in 1960 was 4,501, and now it is 5,040. The average value of its homes is \$6,500.

The citizens were presented with four bond proposals for the street, water, park and sewage and voted approval by roughly the same margin on each case. For the street bonds there were 263 "FOR" votes to 123 "AGAINST."

Street Deteriorated

When the town filed its application with the Community Facilities Administration, it said the main street "has deteriorated to the extent that further patching and maintenance is not considered feasible. Excessive money is being spent for automobile upkeep by the traveling public because of dust and chug holes."

For a cost of around \$20,000, it proposed to construct a concrete pavement from East Lake Jackson road to State Highway No. 288. Along this stretch most of Clute's business is located.

The town's application was reviewed by the Ft. Worth District Office of the Community Facilities administration, approved, and sent to Washington, where it also was approved.

The loan would have been for 25 years, at an interest rate of 3 1/2 per cent. But once

CFA loans are approved, the law requires that private investors be given a chance to take part. The bonds must be advertised for private sale. In Clute's case, they were bought privately, and no Federal loan was needed.

Such federal help to the states and local communities is a fairly new development. It traces its beginnings back 100 years, to the 1862 enactment of the Morrill Act. This established land grant colleges and instituted certain federally-required minimum standards.

In the last 10 years, however, there has been an enormous growth in Federal programs. In 1963, they will total nearly \$10 billion. In 1953, they were \$2.9 billion.

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