

THE DAM CHRONICLE

VOLUME 1

CASCADE LOCKS, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1934

NUMBER 2

BASEBALL FANS ORGANIZE TEAM TO JOIN LEAGUE

Business Men Promise Support Field Being Laid Out on Locks Reservation

Cascade Locks is going to have a baseball team this season, and if its application is accepted will occupy a berth in the Mid-Columbia league. A clarion call for players has been sounded and vigilantes are now engaged in searching the woods for talent, reported to be employed on numerous contracts here and at Bonneville.

Formal steps looking to the organization of a club were taken Tuesday when a group of interested players, fans and business men met in the high school auditorium. J. A. Merrill, popular proprietor of Merrill's Barbecue, was chosen president of the club; Dr. F. Folsom was named treasurer; Superintendent Vernon G. Henderson of the city schools was made secretary and manager of the team.

Business men around town have shown much interest in building a strong team and will provide the necessary financial support to equip the players with natty uniforms.

Through the efforts of Frank Bennett, proprietor of the Dam Inn, the federal government has been induced to let the club play on the government reservation, between the railroad tracks and the locks. The grounds are level and will provide one of the best diamonds in the state. Work of smoothing out the ground is already well under way.

Teams already in the Mid-Columbia league include The Dalles, Hood River, White Salmon and Washougal. Other teams which are expected to make up the circuit will, in all probability, be Camas, Cascade Locks and North Bonneville-Stevenson. The identity of the other teams is uncertain.

Superintendent Henderson has a number of good players already reporting for practice and is now endeavoring to get in touch with other players who wish to try out for positions. The opinion prevails that there are a number of former professional and semi-professionals engaged in work at the dam and every effort will be made to ferret them out and get them into Cascade Locks uniforms. Experienced players are requested to communicate with Mr. Henderson or get in touch with President Merrill.

Old hands who have answered the call include Bill Brink, first baseman; Addison Harrison and Frank Barger, second basemen; Bob Woodward, shortstop; Harry Cramblett, Gib Harrison, Clyde Foulkes and Jim Stubblefield, outfielders. Fred Grey, who has played semi-pro ball with Canadian leagues, chiefly with Edmonton, looks especially good as a fly chaser. Jim Edstrom, formerly a star outfielder with Albany college, is also expected to do some stuff in the garden. Johnny Woodward is being counted on to some catching, and Bud Woodward may be induced to show a few tricks in the middle pasture.

So far the pitching problem is more acute than any other place on the team. Erwin Broliar, who has pitched some mighty nice ball on former Cascade Locks teams, may be expected to give a little time to hurling activities. Joe Miller, who dishes 'em up with either hand and a former semi-pro player from Portland, may be able to help some, while Tom Stubblefield, a hurler of considerable repute from Portland districts and a Gresham high star, looks especially good as a right hander. Control, speed and a fast stepper are the main attributes of Stubblefield the elder.

CASCADE LOCKS WILL CELEBRATE FOURTH IN GRAND MANNER

Cascade Locks is going to put on an old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration. Plans for the celebration are fast taking shape. They have progressed to a point where the town is preparing to ask neighboring towns from Portland to Pendleton and south to Klamath Falls to join in making it a gigantic affair.

Frank Bennett has been appointed chairman of the general committee by the Civic club with power to appoint chairmen of sub-committees. He has promised to make his committee appointments public within the next few days.

The subject of the Fourth of July celebration was brought up at the last meeting of the Civic club. President Frank Hall said that Hood River agreed last year to join Cascade Locks in making a gala occasion of Independence day this year.

Tentative plans for the celebration include dancing, wrestling bouts, baseball games, street concessions, music and fireworks at night.

The opinion prevails that thousands of people desirous of visiting the Bonneville dam for the first time since work got under way will be attracted to Cascade Locks. For that reason there is considerable talk of making the celebration a two-day affair. The Fourth falls on Wednesday, and while the date is not so satisfactory as a weekend it is not anticipated that difficulty would be experienced in attracting huge crowds on the night of July 3.

Business men appear agreed that a gigantic celebration would have the result of giving Cascade Locks widespread publicity by drawing people to town from Portland, Spokane and other northwest cities.

\$25,000 IS BEING SPENT ON BRIDGE OF THE GODS

Painting and Reflooring of the Structure Expected to Keep Crew of Men Busy This Summer

Work of reflooring and painting the Bridge of the Gods, which links Cascade Locks to the Washington shore, is progressing steadily under direction of Superintendent F. W. Johnson.

The Wauna Toll Bridge company, owner of the property, is spending \$25,000 on the work. It is employing a crew of four men, whom it will keep engaged throughout the spring and summer. New flooring of heavy timbers, laid on edge, will cover the entire length of the bridge.

Aluminum paint will be applied to the entire superstructure. It will be the first complete paint job that the bridge has received since it was built eight years ago.

Business has grown better every month since construction of Bonneville dam was authorized. Increase in tolls has enabled the company to proceed with reflooring and painting without drawing too heavily on reserves.

Neon signs have been ordered for both ends of the bridge, and some days ago the company increased the time which may elapse on round-trip tolls: The toll of 50 cents for an automobile, irrespective of the number of passengers, has popularized travel over the bridge. Motorists formerly were allowed two hours on a round-trip toll. Now they are given three hours.

32 BUNKHOUSES AT DAM BEING MOVED TO LOCKS

Buildings Used by General Construction Company Reported Sold to Former Army Officer

The 32 bunk houses utilized by the General Construction company in housing employes while building the first cofferdam at Bonneville are reported to have been purchased by a former army officer, who plans to knock them down and remove them to Cascade Locks. Negotiations are said to be under way for use of the old sawmill property. The construction company abandoned the bunk houses after the upper or first cofferdam, linking Bradford island to the mainland on the Oregon side of the river, was carried out by high water. When work of knocking down the bunk houses begins it must be hurried through to completion, as the buildings must be off the ground they occupy in a short time. It is said the purchaser is to be given ten days to finish the job.

New Electric Shop

Jack Eimer, a skilled electrician, has settled in Cascade Locks and will engage in electric contracting. Because of the new building under way there is every indication that he will have plenty of work to keep him busy. He has leased quarters for his shop and office in Mrs. Sam Hill's building, across the street from the meat market. Mrs. Eimer arrived from Ventura, Calif., Tuesday to join her husband in their new home.

LABER WILL RENT LOTS FOR TENT COLONY IN LOCKS

Means Found of Aiding Dam Employes to Cut Their Living Expenses

Ground space for the building of a tent colony in Cascade Locks to house employes of the Bonneville dam is to be made available immediately at reasonable prices by J. B. Laber, owner of large property interests here, it was announced yesterday by his agent, William Keeler. Water will be piped to the lots and latrines will be erected.

The lots to be utilized for the summer tent colony are located on the hills and are covered with trees. They lay above the main business district and command a splendid view of the Washington side of the river.

Rent has been fixed at \$5 per month for a lot. The family occupying a lot will be expected to furnish its own tent. If desired, inexpensive lumber may be obtained for a floor. It is anticipated that probably a majority of the renters will desire to not only lay floors but to build side-walls for a few feet. Two or more tents may be used.

Every effort will be made to restrict use of lots to heads of families who are employed on government work; to Portland people who may wish to spend the summer vacation period in Cascade Locks where they can enjoy an outdoor life at small cost, and to newcomers to Cascade Locks who cannot obtain living quarters elsewhere. The restrictions will be imposed for the purpose of keeping out itinerants and others who might wish to profit by the low rent.

With 550 men living in bunk houses at Bonneville and more expected as the demand for labor increases, it is reasonable to believe that a large number of the employes will wish to bring their families up from Portland and live in Cascade Locks. Common labor is paid only \$15 a week and the double expense of keeping a family in town and paying board and room at the dam site is more than many wish to carry. Hundreds have already found houses or have built cabins.

Demand for telephone service in Cascade Locks is keeping pace with growth of the town, and long distance calls from here have trebled within the past 60 days. The telephone company is now employing a district lineman who is serving Cascade Locks and Bonneville.

PAYROLL AT DAM TO BE INCREASED BY HALF IN MAY

Contracts on New Projects Will Provide Jobs for 700 More Workers

Hundreds of additional men will be put to work within the next four or five weeks at Bonneville dam, thus increasing the payroll from 1300 to more than 2000 employes if current calculations of the army engineers work out, it was announced Thursday.

Practically all of the new work which is being started on the dam is on the Oregon side of the river. As a result it is expected that demands for living quarters in Cascade Locks cannot be met unless provisions are made to take care of the new crowd of workmen.

Engineers and draftsmen are giving first attention to the preparation of specifications for the main spillway in order to get that job started just as early as possible. Meantime work is to be commenced on the power house and lock masonry, the approach canal and excavations for the lower lock. Bids on these jobs are to be called for first, probably before the end of another month. Bids on the construction of the 20 residences have been asked for by the war department, and within a short time bids will be called for on the moving of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railroad tracks.

Work of shifting the railroad tracks which parallel the river on the Washington side of the Columbia will employ 200 men and is expected to start in May. A new roadbed must be built for a distance of six miles. The new grade starts about five miles below North Bonneville and extends east to a point about Fort Raines, a mile west of the Bridge of the Gods.

There is little or no heavy construction work involved in the shifting of the railroad tracks on the Washington side and the bulk of the labor will consist in making cuts and fills. When the new grade is finished the tracks will be well above the high water line.

Army engineers anticipate that it is going to be late summer before they can begin the task of moving the Union Pacific tracks on the Oregon side of the river. It is looked upon as a highly important engineering job, owing to the character of the ground between Bonneville and Cascade Locks. The job will employ a large force for several months.

Benefits from construction work at the dam this year and next are expected to accrue largely to Cascade Locks. The bulk of the employes will be engaged in labor on the Oregon side of the river and unless there are special reasons why they should reside on the Washington side, will have no occasion to cross the Columbia. Of the 1300 men who are employed on different jobs in connection with the dam work, probably not more than 550 are actually living on the government reserve at Bonneville. The others are living in Cascade Locks, North Bonneville and in cabins on the highway.

The problem of getting fresh milk each day is no problem in Cascade Locks, for Roy Sinner, popular young driver for the Brandes Creamery, Inc., comes into town daily with a cargo of grade A milk and cream. He makes the run out here from Portland every morning and according to all reports is enjoying a splendid business. We mention this because we know mothers want to be certain of the purity of the milk which their children are drinking.

SUMMER COTTAGES

With completion of Bonneville dam Cascade Locks will nestle at the edge of a lake 50 miles in length. The town's position on the lake promises to make it one of the most popular summer resorts in the west. Portland people and others will want summer homes here. For that reason an investment in Cascade Locks property is a permanent investment.

Why not begin a campaign to encourage people to purchase lots and build cottages immediately? The owners would not wish to occupy the cottages as summer homes until the lake is created, but meantime they could keep them rented for three or four years to families of men employed on the dam. Rents obtained over the three or four years would pay the cost of the buildings.