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COLUMBIA OPENS NEW CAMP WITH A DINNER DANCE

Quarters Now Ready for 425 Men and Dining Room Is Prepared to Feed 1000 Employees.

The huge dining hall operated at the dam by the National Commissary company, Seattle, for the Columbia Construction company was formally thrown open Monday night with a dinner and dance. Music for the occasion was provided by an orchestra from Portland.

Invitations to the house warming was limited to members of the engineering corps, contractors who had a part in putting up the buildings and installing equipment, members of the Columbia Construction company's organization and the staff of the National Commissary company. More than 250 people sat down to the dinner, which started at 8 o'clock. Guests included Major Charles F. Williams, district engineer at Portland, and Major H. A. Skerry, executive officer in the Pittock block.

The National Commissary company has the contract for feeding and sleeping the employees of the Columbia Construction company. The camp it has built is said to be the finest ever built in the United States on a construction job.

Work was started Tuesday on the sixth bunkhouse, and a seventh will be started at once. As time goes on provisions will be made for the accommodation of 1,000 men in the camp. Probably two more of the units in the camp will be erected on the south side of the railroad tracks, but the majority of the new buildings will be set up between the railroad tracks and the river.

G. O. Wallace, manager of the camp, has arrived and is now directing all activities. He caused the first meal to be served to employees of the Columbia Construction company in the new dining hall Tuesday morning.

The dining hall has a seating capacity of 320 men, but inasmuch as seven meals are being served a day in order to accommodate workmen on the different shifts, it is possible to accommodate all the 1,000 employees who will eventually be working for the Columbia.

The company expects to have four of the bunkhouses in use this week. It now has sleeping quarters for 306 men, and within a short time can take care of 425 men. It has built its own sewage system, installed a private water system and will heat all of the buildings from a central heating plant. Steam heat from the new central plant was turned on Tuesday night.

Under the contract entered into with the government, the company is obligated to tear down and remove the buildings which it has installed, but since they are of permanent construction and provide sufficient room to quarter a regiment of soldiers, there appears to be doubt whether they will be taken away.

COMMUNITY CENTER CONTRACT APPROVED

After repeated delays, arising from one cause or another, work is to be started on the building that will house the Bonneville Community Center at the dam. The war department has approved the contract and it appears that nothing now stands in the way of getting the project under way.

The building will be 200x100 feet, one story in height. Present plans provide for a mercantile establishment, a moving picture theatre, a pool hall, barber shop and shoe repair shop. The government is going to permit beer to be sold on the premises.

Considerable interest has centered about the building of the recreational center and several individuals and groups of individuals have been interested in obtaining the concessions.

FIRST CONCRETE POURED AT DAM BY CONTRACTORS

The flow of water into the 74-foot hole where the power house will set in Bradford slough at the dam, was practically blocked Sunday when the General Construction company and the J. F. Shea company poured 125 cubic yards of concrete into the pit at the direction of the army engineers.

Pouring of the concrete was witnessed only by workmen and engineers, headed by Lieut. J. S. Gorlinski. More concrete will be poured until a total of 1500 cubic yards has been dumped into the hole.

Contractors on the power house foundation are not ready yet to begin pouring cement in a steady stream, but work of getting the high line in shape to carry buckets is being rushed and the towers to carry the line are beginning to march across Bradford island.

The deep hole in the bottom of the slough was found by engineers when they were looking for a site for the power house. It was drained by the Guy F. Atkinson company, but the water has continued to flow back into it. To stop this flow, the engineers concluded to dump in the cement. To make the pour the contractors were forced to use a pipe line and dump the liquid mixture into the pit.

SCHOOL BUS RULED OFF HIGHWAY BY POLICE

School bus service in the Cascade Locks district was temporarily discontinued Wednesday when state police learned that George Thomas was hauling youngsters without having posted an indemnity bond. They warned Thomas off the highway, too, for failure to carry the proper license plates on his bus. Thomas said afterwards that application had been made sometime ago for the license, but that it had not yet arrived. Children in the district who live east of Herman creek are without transportation.

SCHOOL TO OPEN NEXT MONDAY AT BONNEVILLE

Board Employs Principal and Plans to Start Term in Old Building Without Further Delay.

Meeting Thursday morning in special session, the Bonneville district board concluded to go ahead and open school in the old building and the Community Center, which will be used as temporary quarters until the new building now under construction is completed.

The board met Wednesday night and employed C. A. Robertson, of Brownsville, as principal. It discussed plans for opening school Monday, but did not reach a definite decision.

The matter of transportation for the children was brought up Wednesday night. The board decided to advertise for bids on a 3-year contract.

It has been learned from a school census recently taken by Mrs. Frank Linnton that there are now 100 pupils of school age in the district. Of the 100 pupils, 97 come from families whose fathers are employed by the government or by contractors engaged in building the dam. As most of these children live on the highway some distance from school it is going to be necessary to transport the majority to and from school. The board will make no attempt to furnish school bus service immediately, but expects to be in a position to provide transportation by the time the new school is in use by the district.

Mr. Robertson was at the board meeting Wednesday night. He returned to Brownsville after the meeting, but will be back for the opening of school on Monday. He has taught at Brownsville for the past six years. As yet he and Mrs. Robertson have not found a house at Bonneville.

The board is talking of putting on a fourth teacher after the pupils are transferred to the new building, but it appears problematical whether this will be done.

No date for completion of the new building has been set. However, carpenters are rushing the work and hope is held out that the school will be ready for occupancy shortly after the first of next month.

MERRILL BUILDS ROOF ON DANCING PAVILION

"Jim" Merrill put a crew of carpenters to work Monday building a roof for his dance hall. The work will be rushed through to early completion in an effort to get a cover over the floor before the autumn rains begin in earnest.

The floor for the dance hall was laid in June and thrown open for the Fourth-of-July celebration. Since then it has been used as an open-air pavilion.

With the completion of the new building dances will be held every week, the music for which will be furnished by one of the best orchestras obtainable in Portland.

RAILROAD CONTRACTORS PREPARE TO BUILD CAMP

Construction of the Union Pacific railroad camp which will house workmen employed in relocating the railroad tracks between Bonny Villa and Eagle creek is to be started at once.

The contractors, Orino, Bell & Malcom, Portland, commenced work on their office and shops Wednesday at the dam. The office will set just east of the huge dump pile, at the base of the cliff.

The camp is to be located on the south side of the highway, immediately east of the new Bonneville school building.

Work of relocating the tracks will provide employment for at least 200 men on the first section of the project and it is anticipated that work will be provided for another 300 men when the task of relocating the second section, between Eagle creek and Cascade Locks, gets under way.

CABLE SNAPS; DREDGE SINKS AT BONNEVILLE

Workmen are laboring night and day in an effort to raise the dredge No. 230, owned by the Columbia Construction company, which sank in the river on the Washington side late Saturday.

The dredge went down in the shallow water when a cable snapped on a 80-foot shovel dipper boom. The break in the cable caused the boom to swing around to the river side under a heavy load of rock and gravel and threw the dredge off balance. The crew worked frantically for two hours in an effort to prevent the dredge from going down, but were unable to save it.

The dredge was brought up the river several weeks ago and has been employed on the North Bonneville side.

Officials of the Columbia Construction company hope to have the dredge in operation again within a few days.

WATER COMPANY TO EXTEND WATER MAINS

The Cascade Water company is preparing to extend its mains into the new subdivisions which have recently been thrown on the market by the J. B. Laber organization. A number of homes are going up on the property and lots continue to move.

G. E. Miller, Portland contractor who has been living up at Dee, is building a demonstration house, 14x20, which will be thrown open to public inspection within another week. When he has completed that house he expects to build one for his own use. C. J. Miller, carpenter at the dam, is another who is building on the tract fronting the river.

Work of clearing a street through Edgewood Park has been started. Several residents of the neighborhood have obtained their winter's supply of firewood by removing trees which stand in the street.

ONE KILLED, ONE INJURED AT DAM BY FALLING ROCK

Jackhammer Men Caught by Slide, Thought to Have Been Loosened by Train and Rains.

A heavy rock, believed to have been loosened by recent rains and the jar from the passing of trains, snuffed out the life of George Yates, 21, and probably fatally injured Peter Hubert, 42, at the dam Wednesday morning.

Yates and Hubert, jackhammer men in the employ of the General Construction company and the J. F. Shea company, were working in the excavation which has been sunk for the navigation locks foundation, next to the Union Pacific railroad tracks. They were members of a considerable force of men employed on the job when the rock crashed down from the top of the cut through the tracks at that point.

The train passed at 10:17 and the accident occurred three minutes later, giving rise to the belief that the jar of the train, coupled with the condition of the ground at the surface as a result of the rains, caused the rocks to slide slowly toward the edge of the shelf and hurtle downward.

Yates was dead when picked up, but Hubert was alive but gravely hurt and unconscious. Physicians rushed him off to a Portland hospital where it is said he may recover. His skull was fractured.

Yates was unmarried, as is Hubert, who came to Bonneville from Portland where he had been living in a hotel. Yates' home was in Longview, Washington.

DEER HUNTING SEASON OPENS SEPTEMBER 20

The deer hunting season, which in past years has opened on September 15, will not open this year until September 20. So far as has been learned no business house in the Bonneville Dam area is handling hunting licenses, making it necessary for sportsmen living in Multnomah county to go to Portland, and for those living in Hood River county to go to Hood River for permits to hunt.

The bag in the district is two deer, and the season will be short. Sportsmen going east of the mountains in search of the mule foot deer will be permitted to kill only one buck.

Deer are reported fairly plentiful in the mountains, south of the river toward Mt. Hood, but the country is rough and for that reason many hunters find it difficult to get the bag limit.

North of the river the country is more open and old time sportsmen in the district declare it is easier to get a deer up toward Mt. Adams than on the Oregon side.

Has Narrow Escape.

A Vancouver truck driver flirted with death Tuesday when his machine plunged off the highway at Ruckel creek and nose dived into the canyon. The truck was loaded with wheat. The driver stayed with the machine, but escaped serious injury.