

ECHOES of the GORGE

THE BONNEVILLE DAM CHRONICLE

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BONNEVILLE CASCADE LOCKS

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GRASSHOPPERS

A hot sun and a breeze out of the east sent the temperature up this week to a point where no sane man could be comfortable unless he was in the river with a tub of cold bottles at his elbow. It promises to be the last hot week of the summer, for within another week or 10 days folks will be wondering where they are going to get their winter's supply of coal. But then we are all grasshoppers. If the Lord doesn't take care of us the government will.

NO TRAVELER

We were traveling with George almost the other day and in the course of our conversation inquired if he proposed to return to his childhood home in Italy and give Mussolini a hand in event his native land and England got into a tangle. He smiled and shook his head. "I haven't lost anything over there," he said. Then he told us that his father was a resident of Ethiopia for many years. "I came near going to Africa a few years ago, but I am not going now. At least not until this is over."

DAYS AHEAD

Next week is going to be a busy week. The new city council, the first ever to sit in Cascade Locks, will be sworn into office Tuesday and will hold its first formal session Tuesday night or Wednesday night. Monday is Labor Day except that at the dam it is just another blue Monday, because the work goes on as usual. And Tuesday morning the school bells will ring to all the barefooted boys and girls in from the fields and the sunshine and force them to bend over text books.

ALKI

Greatest of all virtues is patience. Mothers possess it beyond measure. And so does the American government. Two months ago the big shots in Washington were talking about like turkeys on a hot plate, demanding the immediate completion of the CCC camp at Wyeth. The buildings had to be completed within 10 days to accommodate a multitude of tree hoppers. The buildings were finished on schedule, to the delight of the carpenters in Cascade Locks and Hood River, who picked up some extra dollars, but tree hoppers remain as scarce as the proverbial hen teeth, Alki, as the Siwash used to say, or bye and bye plain English, the master builders in the national capital will discover that the quarters are finished and dump a couple hundred boys into them.

SIDEWALKS

Now there is talk of urging the state to macadamize the sidewalks in Cascade Locks, to the benefit of the citizens. Sounds reasonable, but it will take a smart salesman to sell the idea to the highway commission. Highway engineers tell us that the simplest and most inexpensive and most satisfactory method of making good sidewalks on Main street centers about use of a thin coating of concrete. They are of the opinion that the cost to each property holder would be small.

KERNAN STARTS PAVING STREET THROUGH LOCKS

Long awaited by Cascade Locks residents, paving of Main street was started late Saturday afternoon by Contractor F. J. Kernan and company, with a crew of 30 men.

A strip along the north side of the street was laid down, extending from near the toll bridge to the curve at the east end of town. The paving was started under the watchful eyes of Frank Walters, resident state engineer, and K. D. Lytle, district highway engineer from Bend.

Paving consists of crushed rock with several applications of hot tar and repeated rollings to make it smooth. The contractor anticipates that on September 10, date set by the contract extension for finish of the job, the work will be ready to be turned over to the state.

When paving is finished, expected in a week and one-half, Kernan will scrape and roll the shoulders, throw the big chunks out of the gravel sidewalks, roll them down. The hard surface itself will be 40 feet wide, nearly a mile long, with eight-foot shoulders on either side between paving and concrete curbs. Twelve-foot sidewalks run thru the business district, with a six-foot walk on the north side running from the Rapids club to the high school. A move has been started by residents to have the state highway commission pave the gravel shoulders to make the hard surface complete between the curbs.

COOK BUILDS HOUSES

Archy Cook is putting up six tenthouses in Cook's addition back of Tyrrell's tavern at Bonneville. Later he plans to erect 10 more on a flat high above the present homesites. The tent houses will be rented to dam employees.

FIREMEN'S BALL BUYS FIRE EQUIPMENT

The Cascade Locks volunteer fire department benefit dance last Wednesday at Merrill's pavilion in the Locks was a financial as well as social success.

The affair netted the firemen \$87, to be spent on equipment. Use of the hall was donated by J. A. Merrill, who obtained Vivian Lewis's noted dance orchestra for music.

First use of the money will be to purchase a fire siren which can be heard all over town, according to Chief Ralph Williams, the present whistle, installed on Assistant Chief M. L. Morgan's service station air line, is not loud enough. A low pressure, loud voiced whistle of the diaphragm type is being considered.

Noble Hyde is home again after having spent two weeks in the Westport district, where he did temporary duty in the lighthouse service.

OBS BEGINS WORK SECOND SECTION RAILROAD GRADE

Excavation of the Union Pacific's new grade between 100th rock tunnel and the View point was begun this week by Orino, Birkemeir and Saremal following their practical completion of the deep Eagle creek cut.

OBS is rushing to finish the section of grade before the rainy season sets in to make trucking over soft ground hazardous. As soon as it is complete, and as soon as Orino, Bell and Malcom is thru with the Tooth rock tunnel, expected in perhaps 20 days, OBS will begin drilling and blasting its way through the View point.

Because steel for the railroad bridge across Eagle creek will probably not arrive until October 1, OBS is building a wooden trestle across the stream for its trucks to carry the View point rock. The rock will be hauled through the tunnel, across the trestle, through the cut to be dumped as riprap near the toll bridge at Cascade Locks.

The entire tip of the View point will be removed. In anticipation, U. S. engineers have built a flight of wooden stairs to the observation building from the reservation. When blasting is begun, visitors will drive through the reservation, park their cars, then walk up to get a birdseye view of the project. Bonneville Operating company's stand will be moved nearer the visitors' building, according to Community center manager Rudy Bagby, if a suitable location can be obtained for it.

GRANSTROMS WED 35 YEARS

A surprise party was held for Mr. and Mrs. E. Granstrom Monday evening for their 35th wedding anniversary. Those present were Mrs. E. Rosenback, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Erickson, Walter Erickson, Mr. and Mrs. August Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Warren, Frank Foulkes, Miss Gretchen Granstrom.

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Erickson and Mr. and Mrs. August Peterson were present at the wedding 35 years ago.

FIRE PROTECTION

Warning that houses of the Enquist addition at Bonny Villa must be equipped with 25 fire barrels and buckets and the sufficient pressure should be maintained in the water line was made this week by the state fire marshal and Ranger Albert Wiesendanger of Eagle creek.

Matta McFadden, cook at French's, is passing the cigars for the third time. Last week in Portland, he became the proud father of Madeline Lucille McFadden, 7 pounds, 7 ounces. Both mother and daughter are doing fine.

A want ad will get results.

ENGINEERS SEEK TO PLUG UP LEAK IN COFFERDAM

The main crib cofferdam was still flooded this week as U. S. engineers were completing the sealing of the leak that halted operations week ago Monday.

Sheet steel piling has been driven down on both sides of the leak. Concrete was poured into crib No. 8 between the new piling to plug the hole. Just when the cofferdam will be pumped out again so Columbia Construction company can resume excavation of the main dam foundations, has not been determined.

Sunday morning, Columbia moved its giant dragline, the "monaghan," from Bradford island to the lower lock approach canal back of the railroad cribs depot. The dragline was kept busy all week deepening the channel. When the cribs are dry again, it will be moved back to them.

The leak was caused, engineers believe, by the river scouring under the upstream, offshore crib when the cofferdam was pumped out. Thus pressure on the outside was greatly increased and the river outside scoured under a portion of the crib. New sheet piling is driven deeper to keep out the water.

Columbia's trucks this week were dumping impervious clay into the fishway excavation near the cofferdam. The fishway excavation will be used as a storage dump.

Democrats Meet And Perfect Club

Democrats of Cascade Locks flocked into the Bridge of The Gods hotel Friday night. They enjoyed some good music, danced, ate sandwiches, drank coffee. Then they got down to the serious work of the evening and perfected the organization of their club.

"Jim" Merrill, president of the club presided. Mayor-elect Nelson and the members of the incoming city council were present.

Membership dues were fixed at 75 cents a year, with the promise that the fees could be paid in three equal installments of 25 cents. The rolls were thrown open to all democrats living in the precinct, which extends from the Multnomah county line to Wyeth, and hope was expressed that the democrats in Bonneville precinct, or Warrendale precinct, as it is known on the records, would organize a club.

President Merrill appointed an executive committee of seven—five men and two women. And afterwards he announced that there would be another meeting of the club early in September at the hotel.

George Knox, county assessor, was in Cascade Locks, Wednesday getting J. B. Laber's valuations on real property.

SCHOOLS IN AREA TO OPEN DOORS NEXT TUESDAY

"Aw, gee, maw, do I really have to go to school this morning?"

This, or a similar wail, will be heard in a good many households over the dam area next Tuesday morning, day after Labor day, first day of the new school term. And mothers will sigh with relief with the realization that teachers will have to worry about the children a large part of the day.

Schoolhouses in both Bonneville and Cascade Locks have had a summer's rest, have been all fixed up for the opening of school September 3. Greatest change is at Bonneville, here the new auditorium-gymnasium building is ready for action and the school has a new concrete basement of three rooms. At Cascade Locks, changes have been minor additions and improvementst and general repair work.

Just how many children will be enrolled is uncertain. The Bonneville schoolboard expects anywhere from 100 to 150 children for its eight grades, according to Frank C. Linton, board chairman. If more children show up than anticipated, the board will probably hire another teacher, as provided in the coming year's budget. A census was not taken this month because a large number of men have yet to go back to work on the dam.

To be eligible to enter Bonneville school's primary grade, a child must be six years old on or before November 1, the board has notified parents. No exceptions will be made to the ruling, they said.

Cascade Locks school board members have no definite idea of how many children will be in school. They made provision in this year's budget for a third teacher in the high school to raise it to college entrance standards, but have made no provision for extra grade teachers should enrollment prove heavier than usual.

EXPECT BID CALL ON NEW HIGHWAY SOON

Bids for construction of the new section of Columbia river highway between Bonneville and Eagle creek will probably be called at next week's meeting of the state highway commission, a usually reliable source informed The Chronicle yesterday.

The route has been laid out to pass between the former Hill mansion, overlooking the project, and Bonneville school. Then the grade runs below the present highway, goes under Tooth rock through an 800-foot tunnel, crosses Eagle creek on the new bridge, last pier of which was poured this week. A state highway crew is now drilling an exploratory six-foot tunnel into the east face of the rock to determine its condition.

With work opening up at the dam there are almost no idle men in the district.