

THE DAM CHRONICLE

Published every Thursday in the interests of the Bonneville dam area.

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Official publication for American Legion post No. 88, Bonneville, Oregon.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier	
One month	20 cents
Three months	50 cents
By Mail	
Three months	\$0.50
Six months	\$1.00
One year	\$2.00

OUR PROGRAM

1. Develop a fire protection system.
2. Create a water district and develop lands between Craigmont hotel and Herman creek.
3. Install street lights.
4. Lay down sidewalks—even though they are wooden sidewalks.
5. Urge the federal government to purchase the toll bridge and make it a free bridge.
6. Launch a campaign to make the lake back of the dam the most popular resort on the West Coast.

STREET LIGHTS

Summer will soon be here and we will not need street lights—seems to be the opinion of the City Council of Cascade Locks. When the council first met there was quite a flurry about getting them in. The question was raised that the power company was going to rob the people for this service. The issue was investigated and it was found that the rates quoted were as reasonable as any in the state. The question of street lights was laid away for another day. It will be nice when summer comes.

FIRE ORDINANCE

At the next meeting of the Common Council of Cascade Locks a proposed ordinance relative to fire regulation will come up for second reading. The ordinance presented is long and covers many and varied measures in regard to the handling of fire.

It is perhaps one of the most important ordinances that has been placed before the council. In places it is exceptionally strict and in others it is lax.

If the ordinance had been enacted two years ago and had it been strictly enforced there would not have been a fire in Cascade Locks in that time.

When it is enacted and put into effect there is going to be a certain class of people who are going to feel that they are being singled out as the only offenders.

We urge everyone interested in the welfare and safety of the community to be present at the council meeting Monday night when it comes up for second reading so that when the marshal visits your home and suggests corrections in the wiring or heating arrangement that you will understand why he is there.

COUNCILWOMAN LEAVES

This week Cascade Locks lost one of its leading citizens. Mrs. Harry Seymour, known to thousands before her marriage as Mrs. Mae Silva, operator of the Inn of the Bridge of the Gods, is moving with her husband today to Oakland, Calif.

For years Mrs. Seymour has been known by tourists and residents alike for her wonderful meals and hospitality at the famous inn. With the incorporating of the city she was honored by being elected to the council and in this capacity has been very

active in the building of a new municipality.

Her many friends regret to see her leave. The Chronicle wishes her all the happiness in the world and looks forward to the times she has promised to visit the community in the future.

"YOU NAME IT"

(By Robert H. Stevenson)

In every place where men gather and work together there arises a jumble of their aggregate provincialisms that go to make up the essence of the American language, in short, slang. Here on the dam men of all classes and countries have gathered and the slang of the Bonneville dam has come to be probably the richest and most unique in the history of this country, exceeded only by the slang of the California gold fields in the early fifties.

Slang is the language of the big construction camp and without it a man would have a hard time making himself understood. For instance if you should overhear the following order from a boss, what would you make of it?

"Send me down two dinky skimmers, a hook tender, seven wood butchers, two dozen canal wrenches, three Irish buggies and a muck skip."

Unless you were familiar with the slang of a construction job you would think that man was insane. It is granted that an order of that wording would not go through, but the terms exist and are used daily.

A "dinky skinner" is one who operates a small locomotive of any kind. A "hogger" is one who operates a large locomotive, being derived from the railroad slang for engine which is "hog". A "cat skinner" is one who operates a caterpillar tractor. A "hook tender" manages the hooking and unhooking of cargo from a hi-line or crane, and a "wood butcher" is a rough carpenter.

Probably the most unique term to be encountered anywhere is that applied to a common long handled shovel. It is called a "canal wrench". It also has other names equally fitting, such as "muck stick" and "ditch prodder". An "Irish buggy" is a wheelbarrow and some crack-brained would-be wit has said that it is so called because the Irish were first taught to walk on their hind legs by running a wheelbarrow.

There are numerous other terms that bring a smile to even the more sedate, such as "Swedish condition powder" for snore or snuff. Add to this "muck skip", which is a three-sided steel or wooden box with rings on four corners to lift it by, which is used to carry rubble in after it has been loaded by hand shovels. An air compressor is called a "wind-jammer" or "wheeler". A truck is a "fake" or a "klunk". Any piece of equipment that is not standard is called "Joe McGee", why no one seems to know. It is much like the newspaper term "30" which means the end or finish. Where it began and why no one knows. It apparently just napped like Little Audrey.

Wearing apparel comes in for a bit of verbal ribbing when a hat is called "leaning fat". Gloves are known to the initiated as "hand shoes". Fitting term, isn't it? "Hi-ball" is a dynamic and magic word when it comes as an order. Picture a crew of men erecting forms for the pouring of concrete. Time becomes a vital element. We will suppose that the men respect their boss. He receives orders from headquarters, and comes out on the job. "Hi-ball" he sings and then watch them lay into it and make the chips fly. It means hurry, rush, speed up.

"Brass-hats", "pushers", "hard-hats", "shifters", and "guns" are terms applied to bosses or foremen in general, though "brass-

hats" and "hard-hats" are more properly reserved for engineers and inspectors. Since the Bonneville dam is being constructed under the supervision of the War Department, Corps of Engineers, the term "brass-hat" is particularly fitting as that term comes from the army and designates officers of high rank. "Hard-hats" is a more recent term and grows out of the wearing of the new pressed fiber helmets on construction jobs, as a protection against falling rock. They are not particularly confined to engineers or inspectors, but are mostly worn by them, and have become a badge of recognition.

There are hundreds more that space will not permit mention of, though each is as interesting as the last. Some day some enterprising person is going to make a dictionary of these terms and preserve for posterity one of the most interesting phases of construction work.

POWER AN ISSUE

Immediately upon his arrival in Washington, Oregon's energetic democratic congressman, Walter M. Pierce, reiterated his stand concerning the distribution of Bonneville power, a block of which should be available in 1937.

Mr. Pierce advocates (1) electric energy to the public at a price sufficient to repay the cost of the total Bonneville system allocated to power and amortized over a period of fifty years, (2) government ownership and control of the Bonneville system including more than one main transmission line, (3) more responsibility for the Federal Power Commission, (4) reservation of a definite amount of power for public consumption. He says:

"Electricity is a necessity in this modern American civilization. This greatest of all resources belongs to the people. I want to see it actually bring about 'the more abundant life'.

"It can be one of the greatest farm relief movements ever instituted. It may be the salvation of the American farmer.

"In this competitive civilization in which we live selfish utilities have charged exorbitant rates and denied the people a liberal use of their own resource. I believe the government must now step in and provide the public with power at cost. Some of the reasons why the government can produce and distribute electric energy more economically than most organized utilities are: (1) few high salaried executives, (2) no dividends on watered stock, (3) no expensive propaganda, and (4) no lobbyists.

"Bonneville was not constructed as a unit of war. The Federal Power Commission should be given more authority over it rather than army engineers under the War Department.

"There will be no surplus power at Bonneville. The problem is to safeguard the general public so that organized utilities and industries do not get control."

2,400 A MONTH

American Legion records indicate that World War veterans now are dying at the rate of approximately 2,400 per month, which indicates that the Grim Reaper is working fast among Legionnaires and other ex-service men. If veterans dying leave assets of less than \$1,000, the government will pay \$100 funeral expenses. These burial award claims are being allowed at the rate of 2,205 per month, showing that only 195 of the 2,400 veterans dying per month have more than \$1,000 to leave to their families. That's less than one out of twelve who has an estate of even \$1,000—not such a prosperous and favored class, after all. Government insurance is not considered in the assets but private insurance is.

35¢ ROOSEVELT Theatre

ON THE BONNEVILLE DAM RESERVATION

Direction J. J. Parker

FRIDAY, SATURDAY—JANUARY 3-4

ALICE BRADY—DOUGLASS MONTGOMERY

—IN—

"LADY TUBBS"

Behind the Butler's Back She Played High Jinx With High Society... Watch Her Smoke!

SUN., MON., TUES.—JANUARY 5-6-7

JACK BENNY

—IN—

"IT'S IN THE AIR"

with Una Merkel, Nat Pendleton, Ted Healy and Mary Carlisle

A Full House of Comedy—Three Kings, Two Queens!

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY—JANUARY 8-9

GRETA GARBO—FREDERIC MARCH
FREDDIE BARTHOLOMEW

—IN—

"ANNA KARENINA"

A Mighty Motion Picture That Will Live Long In Your Heart!

Doors Open Daily and Sunday, 6:45—Matinee Sun. 1 p.m.

Program for
JANUARY & FEBRUARY

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

JANUARY 10-11—

"MARY BURNS FUGITIVE"

JANUARY 12-13-14—

"GOLDDIGGERS OF 1935"

JANUARY 15-16—

"STRANDED"

JANUARY 17-18—

"STORM OVER THE ANDES"

JANUARY 19-20-21—

"BIG BROADCAST"

JANUARY 22-23—

"REMEMBER LAST NIGHT"

JANUARY 24-25—

"TRAVELING SALESLADY"

JANUARY 26-27-28—

"HANDS ACROSS THE TABLE"

JANUARY 29-30—

"SHE COULDN'T TAKE IT"

JANUARY 31—FEBRUARY 1—

"FIGHTING YOUTH"

FEBRUARY 2-3-4—

"IRISH IN US"

FEBRUARY 5-6—

"CHINA SEAS"

FEBRUARY 9-10-11—

"LAST DAYS OF POMPEII"

FEBRUARY 12-13—

"BORDERTOWN"

FEBRUARY 14-15—

"EAST OF JAVA"

FEBRUARY 16-17-18—

"BROADWAY MELODY"

FEBRUARY 19-20—

"DEVIL DOGS OF THE AIR"

FEBRUARY 21-22—

"STORMY"

FEBRUARY 23-24-25—

"THREE MUSKETEERS"