

THE BONNEVILLE DAM CHRONICLE

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CASCADE LOCKS

BONNEVILLE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1938

Shipper To Attend C. of C. Meeting

Kit C. Conyers, district manager for the McCormick Steamship company, which followed precedents set in sending first ships to Stockton, California, to far inland South American ports on the Parana river and other interior river-way shipping points and docked the s. s. Charles L. Wheeler, Jr., at The Dalles last July 9, will give all shippers of cargo on the Wheeler something to remember next Wednesday night. A high light feature of the annual meeting of the Mid-Columbia Chamber of Commerce, which, with its subsidiary corporation, the Mid-Columbia Bonneville Seaways association, sponsored the coming of the first ocean ship over the seaway created by Bonneville dam, at the Columbia Gorge hotel, west of Hood River, that night will be presentation by Mr. Conyers of handsomely printed souvenir freight contracts. The souvenirs, illuminated in colors, are signed by Charles L. Wheeler, manager of the steamship company, and Roy Anthony, president of the Mid-Columbia chamber of commerce.

It is expected that most of the 38 shippers of nearly 1500 tons of freight brought to The Dalles from Los Angeles and San Francisco will attend the meeting next Wednesday and receive the souvenirs of the historic occasion in person. Delegations from affiliated chambers of commerce, all the way from Vancouver, Washington, to Goldendale, and from Cascade Locks to The Dalles are expected to swell attendance to record proportions. A large delegation of members of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, starting on a good-will tour through north central Oregon will attend the annual banquet Wednesday night. Committee sessions of the chamber, the activities of which the coming year will center around plans for emphasizing the scenic and business attractions of the Columbia Gorge area, will start Wednesday afternoon. They will be attended by representatives of the Oregon and Washington state highway departments. Harold B. Say, who has engaged in very effective publicity work for the Oregon highway body the past several years, will be present.

Roy Anton will preside at the sessions of the mid-Columbia chamber, and W. S. Nelson, who was coordinator of the seaways celebration, which brought this section of the country international newspaper and radio publicity, will be toast.

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Pacific Northwest in Strategic Position in National Defense Program

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In plans for national defense, the Pacific northwest states have been assigned no unimportant part, based chiefly upon the two federal hydroelectric projects at Bonneville and Grand Coulee, and the raw materials available in that region, news writers in Washington.

War-time procurement is now being planned on an extensive scale by the army and navy munitions board and the special subdivisions which study various phases.

As the mechanics of national defense progress, one of the initial objectives is to accumulate 21 strategic and 54 critical materials to prevent a shortage. Some of these materials have their principal source abroad; others require development in the United States and an essential in converting certain raw materials to finished product is power in large, cheap blocks, such as Bonneville and Grand Coulee can furnish.

One such item is processing phosphate rock of Idaho. Legislation will be offered in the next congress to develop the phosphate resources and curb exports of the rock.

Japan took 343,000 tons of phosphate rock, valued at \$1,434,000, in 20 months. Legislation will be introduced to curtail export of scrap

Captain Des Islets Returns from East

Captain Robert Des Islets of the Bonneville project, with Mrs. Des Islets and their son, Bobbie, returned Tuesday from a trip to the East. Captain Des Islets attended a special meeting of the North Atlantic Division of the Army Engineers. He also took in the Army-Navy football game. The game was played, he reported, in a temperature of 18 degrees above zero. The snow had been cleared from the field and from the seats on the grandstand, but the spectators' feet were imbedded in a foot of snow.

The most impressive thing of the trip, the captain reported, was the fresh air of Bonneville noted when he returned.

Army Marksman Win Recent Match

The U. S. Army Engineers' Rifle Team of Bonneville last Friday defeated the Electric Steel Foundry team of Portland 859-852 in Class B competition of the Columbia-Willamette Rifle League. The team is captained by Powerhouse Electrician F. J. McClure.

The next match is scheduled for tonight with the Sellwood Rifle Club. The Army Rifle Team is shooting under the colors of Captain Robert Des Islets, executive officer of the Bonneville district, and twice Olympic games contender.

The Bonneville team is composed of: McCormick, Gray, Ericson, Whitsett, Tourish, Chaney, Harris, Welch and McClure, capt. Seven of these men previous to beginning of this competition, had never fired a rifle.

McClure holds 35 medals in pistol shooting and is small arms instructor for the Multnomah County Sheriff's office. Next fall he is scheduled to enter the Olympic pistol shooting try-outs in Virginia, and is now being groomed by Sergeant "Brigham" Young of the Portland police, who perhaps holds more medals for pistol shooting than any other man in the United States.

WPA CAMP STARTED

Stakes have been set for a large WPA camp on the site of the Old Orino camp just west of the Bonneville school. The camp is to be used for men working on the clearing of the Bonneville power line going up the Oregon side. Just when actual work will begin is not known. Survey crews are still working on the location of the proposed line.

Oregonian Writer Expresses Views On Industrializing Columbia Gorge

THE PROBLEM

Should Industrial Development in the Heart of the Most Scenic Area of Oregon's Famed Columbia Gorge be Encouraged?

YES, say those who believe that . . .

" . . . the Pacific northwest's immediate chance for industrial development and population increase lies in full utilization of cheap power available at Bonneville"

" . . . all factories which could be operated by the industrial power to be made available at Bonneville would take up but a small part of the river's banks."

" . . . buildings, properly constructed, should add rather than detract from the natural beauty of the gorge."

NO, say those who believe that . . .

" . . . the Columbia gorge at Bonneville is most valuable to the Pacific northwest as a primitive and recreational area."

" . . . factory buildings . . . would be eye-sores."

" . . . dredging to provide a channel to the sea for big ships would despoil banks."

" . . . factory operations on the banks of the Columbia would lead to pollution of both water and air."

" . . . climate of the gorge is admittedly not the best for year-around residence."

(By Malcolm Bauer)
Staff Writer, The Oregonian

The time, 1950; the place, the Columbia river gorge; towering factory chimneys belch smoke over the majesty of Beason rock; spray from Latourell falls spatters off low-lying roofs of galvanized iron; slag heaps block off Multnomah falls; clatter of trucks, whistles, freight trains echoes through the gorge.

Same time; same place; Bonneville dam, no longer in repair, stands dejectedly in the middle of the Columbia, allowing the waters of the river to slip unmoistened through and over its crumbling concrete structure; flowers sprout from generators; rats skip joyfully from cracks in buildings and dam.

Right now such exaggerated pictures are popping up in the nightmares of factions at odds over the future course to be followed in the utilization of Bonneville power.

UNSULLIED:

One Factor Wants Gorge That Way

Conservationists are afflicted with the first dream. They fear that Bonneville's cheap switchboard power will attract industrial development, which, with increased traffic, barren factories and houses, gasoline stations, roadside stands, will permanently mar the primitive beauty of the gorge. To them the Columbia gorge at Bonneville is most valuable to the Pacific northwest as a primitive and recreational area, adjacent to but not a part of a heavily populated area.

From time immemorial, the Columbia river, widening as it nears the

sea, has cut into the high walls of the Cascades, creating vistas, waterfalls, scenic wonders which have drawn gasps from tourists and home-folks alike. The conservationists want it to stay that way, unsullied by man.

Others, while not admitting that any loss in scenic values would follow upon industrialization at Bonneville, argue that the Pacific northwest's immediate chance for industrial development and population increase lies in full utilization of cheap power available at Bonneville. The states of Oregon and Washington, they say, cannot afford to take the chance of turning away industries from the gorge, ideally located at the source of power and with direct water, rail and highway transportation facilities.

The antagonists each preach the significance of the choice which must be made; both have as their goal an avowed desire to bring "the greatest good to the greatest number."

REPORT:

Planning Groups Suggest Protection

As early as 1934 lovers of the esthetic were well launched on a program to prevent over-industrialization of the Columbia gorge, which, they felt, might reasonably follow upon completion of the Bonneville project. Members of the Oregon and Washington planning commissions banded together as the Columbia gorge committee, spent three years in investigation, then issued a report, concluding that:

"The important changes confront-

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Christian Science Monitor Tells of Columbia Salmon

Salmon and the Bonneville dam received a write-up of large proportions entitled "A Window on the West," in a recent issue of the Christian Science Monitor. Mention in the article of shad has been somewhat puzzling to local residents. So far as the Dam Chronicle has been able to learn, there are no shad in the Columbia.

The article from the Monitor follows:

Men who sit in the little booth overlooking narrow gateways in the famous fish ladder here are learning a lot about fish. Their main object is to count the number of salmon that go up the Columbia during the autumn run, but that isn't the only information they have compiled. Thanks to them, the world is getting more accurate information about many kinds of fish than it had before. Probably never in all history has there been such an opportunity to check up on the migrations of finny creatures in a major waterway.

Fish 'Nobodies'

The salmon is the most important fish to swim the broad, swift stream of the Columbia, but there are lots of other kinds in the river. They have not the commercial importance of the salmon, no great industry de-

pends upon them; the economic life of the Northwest is not geared to their migrations; sportsmen do not pursue them; they are the "nobodies" of fishdom. But some of them may become "somebodies," and their numbers are so vast as to command some attention.

For example, there are the lampreys—500,000 of them passing through the fish ladders in a few weeks' time! In Europe, these eel-like fish are often eaten; in fact, they are considered a delicacy in some countries. But here nobody bothers to catch them. They work their way slowly up the ladders, attaching themselves in festoons of ribbon-like streamers to the concrete walls of the fishways, inching slowly along until they have climbed over the towering Bonneville Dam by easy stages, and emerging into the lake and upper river. Climbing the fish ladders is a comparatively slow job for the lamprey, but he does it.

Shad Counted

Then, there are the shad. Several thousand were counted in the ladders early in the autumn. The shad is an important food fish. There may some day be a shad fishery in Columbia waters. A good many whitefish also have passed through the gates; not the big whitefish of the Great Lakes, but a slender, smaller species, about a foot in length.

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Lewis County PUD Board Orders Action

CHEHALIS, Wn.—The Lewis county PUD commissioners have authorized the starting of condemnation suits against three Eastern Lewis county utilities, and are making further plans to co-ordinate power and light in Lewis county.

The three concerns against which condemnation was ordered are the Interstate Power & Light company of Mineral, Washington Gas & Electric company of Morton, and the Cowlitz Valley Power company of Randle.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the issuance of \$250,000 of revenue bonds for acquisition of the three utilities, and improvements on the plants; also for rebuilding transmission lines and other improvements, such as generating plants and substations. The bonds are to be issued in denomination of not over \$1000 not exceeding 6 per cent interest, to mature within the second to the 30th year after issuance.

Under the resolutions the commission expects to acquire necessary connections through the three companies to be condemned, to connect with the Rainier National Park company in Rainier park; a hydroelectric plant on the Tilton river, and transmission line connection via Longview through Lewis county, and a line connecting at Salkum with the Puget Sound Power & Light company.

The PUD board authorized the acquisition or construction of a 23,000 volt line extending to Tacoma's municipally owned line near Elbe, and a 13,000-volt line for servicing eastern Lewis county.

Final Contract Delayed On West Coast Deal

A slip-up in the arrangements for the formal signing of contract for the purchase of the West Coast Power Company's properties in this section by the City Light of Cascade Locks Wednesday resulted in the papers not being signed yet.

Mayor G. E. Manchester and City Recorder W. J. Carlson made a trip into Portland Wednesday to sign but came home without getting to write their names on this famous paper.

The contract will be brought to Cascade Locks to be signed within the very near future.

PLAN NEW ORDINANCE

The city council Monday night instructed the city attorney to draw up an ordinance to restrict building in what they term the business section of Cascade Locks. This section will extend from the Bridge of the Gods to Water Street, and to the depth of the property. Water Street is the first street west of the school house.

The council also announced the appointment of G. E. Miller and William Smeltzer to the planning commission to replace Frank Tubandt and L. L. Amoth.

CCC STARTS NEW BUILDING

Two new buildings were started at Wyeth CCC camp this week when sections of a new recreational hall and a building to house a woodworking shop and storage space arrived. The buildings are to be built by the new section plan of building. The buildings will take the place of one which burned down some time back.

SANTA CLAUS IN HOOD RIVER

A real live Santa Claus will be at the J. C. Penney store in Hood River today from 1 to 3 o'clock and again from 4 to 6. Whiskers, red coat, bells, fur collar and all, the old Christmas saint will entertain the kiddies during these hours.

BOXING BOUTS SCHEDULED

Eleven boxing bouts will be held tonight at the old Scout building in Cascade Locks. The matches are given under the auspices and for the benefit of the Cascade Locks Boy Scouts. Thirty-three rounds of boxing will be on the program.

Hood River Public Library