

The North Santiam's Mill City Enterprise

Serving the North Santiam
Valley

Lyons, Mehama, Elkhorn,
Mill City, Gates, Mongold,
Detroit and Idanha

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Looking Up and Down the Canyon

By CHARLES WOLVERTON

In the eyes of the game commission, the various societies for the preservation of wildlife and most patrons of the out-of-doors, the deer are innocent creatures which must be coddled and kept happy. But to Stony Wells, whose spent a good part of his 85 years worrying with the creatures, they're just one stage below a cougar. And that, in Oregon, is lower than a plague rat in China.

Stony's garden is the chief reason why he and the deer don't get along. Stony—when the deer don't get them first—grows about the finest vegetables in these parts.

Of late he's been raising crops he figures people will like but the deer won't. He's tried cauliflower, cabbage and broccoli. What happens is that the deer appear to adapt themselves to any kind of a diet, so long as its grown in Stony's garden.

To protect his cauliflower and broccoli, he erected a scarecrow, with red hat, red shirt and coat that almost reached the ground. The first night the deer stayed away. Stony thought: Perhaps this time I've got 'em fooled.

Another night passed. The deer already had made friends with the scarecrow—in fact, he nibbled cauliflower right from under the scarecrow's coat.

With thousands of acres of brush to brows upon, one would think that the deer could get along without Stony's garden. I guess they figure on it for their salad.

The creatures aren't content with grazing on garden stuff that grows above the ground. They know how to grab hold of a carrot and pull it up, nibble off the root and all.

One time Stony—as many others have done—complained to the game commission. So one of the bigshots came up to advise Stony, a mere unprotected human being amongst a horde of protected wildlife.

Said the bigshot: "No, it's against the law to have a dog that runs deer. No, you can't shoot them, except in season, and then just bucks. No, you can't trap 'em."

"In other words, they've got an open season on me, but I've got a closed season on them?" Stony asked.

"That's right," said the bigshot. "Is it all right if I say 'shoo'?" asked Stony.

The bigshot of the game commission missed the sarcasm, at first, before he said yes.

"I tell you what you ought to do," he advised. "You ought to build a high fence."

"Can't do it," said Stony, quoting the law right back at him. "It's illegal in his country to build a fence more than four and one-half feet high."

I asked Stony: "Why don't you put up a light at night?"

"They've got a light now. A street light. It helps 'em pick out the food they like and not be bothered with weeds."

Fact is, the deer problem in this country isn't a very funny matter. Many local residents have seen an entire season's work destroyed in a single night by the prong-horned predators. Al Millsap, in Gates, who likes to develop new varieties of vegetables and fruits, has seen his whole new orchard almost wrecked by deer polishing their horns on young saplings, ripping off the bark. In the Fern Ridge area, where a rich industry of berry growing has been developed, farmers had sooner risk a big fine for getting rid of the beasts than to see their fields ruined. Because a deer will devour acres of young shoos in a single night.

A game warden, who asked a farmer there if any deer were bothering him, was told:

"Yeah, there were five of 'em, but three got away."

Few crops have enjoyed the experience of finding an entirely new market like strawberries and raspberries, now being grown so successfully in hill land in the Canyon area. It used to be that once the fresh berry and cannery demand was met, then berries became a drug on the market.

Timberwolves Win in First League Game

With several one-sided victories already behind them, Mill City high schools Timberwolves will meet their strongest rivals in the Marion County B League—the Sublimity Saints—on the local basketball court Friday night.

The Saints won the championship last year by only two points over Mill City. The Timberwolves hope to reverse that result this year. A first-rate contest is forthcoming, because both teams are made up of veterans from last year.

The Timberwolves won their first league game Tuesday night when the strong Aumsville team was defeated, 35 to 22.

Miller, Mill City center, held scoring honors for the evening with 12 points, and Hunter, forward, was not far behind with 10. The two guards got in more than their share of points with 7 for Verbeck and 4 for Lawrence Poole. Leo Poole had one. Two subs, Thornley and Wirick, were in the game.

The Timberwolves journeyed to Salem Friday night to take part in the B. League jamboree which officially opens conference play for the season.

The teams which took part were divided into two groups representing the north and south halves of the county. In the southern group were Detroit, Gates, Mill City, Aumsville and Sublimity. Northern section was Jefferson, St. Paul, Gervais, North Marion, Chemawa and the State school for the Deaf. South defeated North by 69 to 45.

Mill City played Jefferson, winning 13-2. Scoring for Mill City were Hunter, 1; Leo Poole, 8; Miller, 2; Verbeck, 1. Lawrence Poole had a bad night and went scoreless but otherwise played a good game.

In a non-conference game with Stayton here last Tuesday, which the Wolves won, 39 to 30. Gary Hunter shared high point honors with Lyons of Stayton with 12 each; Leo Poole, 7; Miller, 9; Verbeck 3; Lawrence Poole, 8.

The B string fared badly, losing 47 to 27. Baltimore was high point man with 10, for Mill City; Titus of Stayton had 18.

B LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Dec. 7—Aumsville vs. Mill City; Sublimity vs. Detroit; Turner vs. Gates.

Dec. 10—Mill City vs. Sublimity; Turner vs. Aumsville; Gates vs. Detroit.

Dec. 14—Mill City vs. Turner; Gates vs. Sublimity; Detroit vs. Aumsville.

Jan. 7—Gates vs. Mill City; Detroit vs. Turner; Sublimity vs. Aumsville.

Jan. 11—Detroit vs. Mill City; Aumsville vs. Gates; Sublimity vs. Turner.

Jan. 14—Mill City vs. Aumsville; Detroit vs. Sublimity; Gates vs. Turner.

Jan. 18—Sublimity vs. Mill City; Aumsville vs. Turner; Detroit vs. Gates.

Jan. 21—Turner vs. Mill City; Sublimity vs. Gates; Aumsville vs. Detroit.

Jan. 25—Mill City vs. Gates; Turner vs. Detroit; Aumsville vs. Sublimity.

Jan. 28—Mill City vs. Detroit; Gates vs. Aumsville; Turner vs. Sublimity.

DETROIT LOSES TO GERVAIS IN VALLEY TOURNAMENT

Starting off the basketball season, Detroit high school lost to Gervais in the tournament held in Willamette University gym last Friday. The score was 22 to 4.

Because of road conditions, the Detroit team and rooters stayed overnight in Salem.

Jefferson and Chemawa won first and second prizes for their cheering sections.

That's not so any more, because by freezing, a fresh berry market has been set up the year round. That is why many people who have been in the logging and lumber trades are turning their thoughts to a crop which would mean an income in a couple of years—instead of waiting a hundred years for the trees to grow up.

Idanha Man Held As Fugitive

John Schimpf, about 45, a carpenter, was arrested in Idanha Wednesday by Deputy Sheriff Larry Wright on a fugitive warrant. He was lodged in the Mill City jail Wednesday evening.

Deputy Wright said he did not know the nature of the charge, but said the jailed man was accused of a felony by Meeker, Colo., authorities.

Schimpf has been working in Idanha for Justice of the Peace Ed Vickers for whom he was doing carpenter work at the time of his arrest.

Schimpf professed to be utterly in the dark about the charge against him. He said he had been a resident of Oregon, most of the time in Woodburn, since 1948.

He related that he had taken a trip to Nebraska to visit relatives last summer. In July he stopped for about a month in Meeker and worked for a contractor there. Thence he left by bus for Nebraska and then returned to Oregon. He has been in the Canyon several months.

Schimpf said that about two weeks ago he sent a money order to his former employer in Meeker, asking that his tools be shipped to Idanha.

"You can see that I haven't been making any secret of my whereabouts," he said, "or else I wouldn't have written to Meeker for my tools. I don't know what it's all about."

Schimpf said his wife lives in Woodburn.

Youth Admits Tavern Theft

Two Canyon burglaries were solved this week by a confession of a 17 year old youth who was caught in Newberg in the act of pilfering a filling station.

The young man, according to police, admitted breaking into the Mill City Tavern early Friday morning and taking about \$8 in dimes and nickels and trying unsuccessfully the same night to force an entry into the Horner store at Gates.

The youth also admitted breaking into an Aumsville filling station and seizing a cash register, which was found later by Sheriff Denver Young in a dump near Turner. Only a few dollars was in the register.

Green made his confession to the Clackamas County sheriff in Oregon City.

Entrance to the tavern here was gained by cutting a hole through a door panel and lifting out the crossbar. Byron Davis, tavern operator, had estimated his loss at about \$20.

The Aumsville filling station operator, D. E. Roberts, was expected by Sheriff Young to swear out a criminal complaint against Green.

Mill City Police Chief J. T. King and Deputy Sheriff Larry Wright investigated the local burglaries and fingerprints were lifted at the tavern.

Green also acknowledged breaking into a tavern at Molalla and taking according to police estimate about \$150.

Green was in the toils of the law before for helping effect the escape of another juvenile from Salem jail, by passing a saw hidden in a cream-puff.

FREEDON TRAIN DOCUMENTS DISPLAYED IN REPLICA

Photographic copies of documents shown in the Freedom Train are on display at the Mountain States Power Co. office here, with a different exhibit weekly.

Currently is on view a copy of the famous Roger Williams declaration for religious freedom.



Younge Held In Detroit Assault Count

Burdette Younge, Detroit hotel man, came out about even this week in his numerous troubles with the law.

In his favor was an order by District Judge Joe Felton in Salem on Tuesday, reducing one count from assault to kill to assault and battery. This was the case of an alleged brawl in the hotel with Forrest Carey, Turner, several weeks ago.

Judge Felton explained that testimony that Younge had attacked Carey with fists and kicks did not constitute proof of intent to kill.

A silver ring fashioned like a western saddle, was introduced in evidence as having been taken from Younge by a deputy sheriff after the brawl.

Charles de Sully, Idanha first aid man, also testified as to his emergency treatment of Carey.

Bail for Younge was set at \$1000, life term in the assault to kill count, Younge would have faced a possible but a maximum of a year in jail and \$500 fine in the reduced charge.

Meanwhile, another charge is pending against Younge over more troubles last week end. In Judge Vickers' court in Idanha he was charged with assault in an alleged attack upon Joe Wright of Detroit.

Younge is scheduled to return to Judge Fenton's court Friday for a hearing on a charge of illegal sale of liquor, following the alleged purchase by state liquor commission agents of whiskey from him last week end. Margaret Aich, who was convicted recently of the same offense, and Joe Cotton, are also charged.

In a civil suit, Mrs. G. R. Dickie of Detroit, owner of the building now leased by Younge, is suing to have the contract voided. The case was filed last week.

Honor Student List Announced

Report cards were handed out Wednesday at Mill City high school, and 20 per cent of the student body was listed on the honor roll. They are:

Freshmen: Arlone Kuhlman, Dolores Pool, Alona Daly, Bob Shelton, Lela Kelly, Donna Cooke and Daryl Farnham.

Sophomores: Wanda Vandermeer, Marlene Verbeck, and LaVetta Powelson.

Juniors: Dolores Brewer and Phyllis Timm.

Seniors: Marian King and David Karr.

Dog Show Presented.

Tuesday morning Billy Watkins and his dog, Major, presented a program for the student bodies of Mill City and Gates high schools and the local grade school. The program was one of a series of entertainment of the National Assembly. Major, an outstanding dog, could subtract, add, read an count.

Snow Slows Work

Heavy snow in the Canyon the past week halted virtually every logging operation and slowed lumber production almost to a standstill.

Construction work on the North Santiam Highway also was affected, with the Kuckenberg Construction Co. marking time on grade work, the Port Construction Co. closing down for several days on the Breitenbush bridge, and the H. O. Montag Co. down for awhile on its wall construction work.

Warm rains and wind from the west early this week brought some hope that the snow, at least at lower levels, would melt.

At Detroit over the week end 15 inches of snow almost isolated the upper Canyon community for a time. Reports from the Little North Fork section indicated that the same weather conditions and effect on logging were being experienced.

Tuesday the effect of the weather on employment was apparent with the large number who were lined up for unemployment compensation offices temporarily set up here by the state commission.

Bids on Detroit Dam To Be Called Jan. 4

Polio Strikes Detroit Girl

County health authorities were on the alert in the Canyon this week for signs of infantile paralysis, following a serious case of the dread disease in Detroit late last week.

The small daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Fry was stricken. The girl was rushed to Salem, where Dr. Stone of the County Dept. of Health diagnosed her case as polio, and sent the victim to Dohrnbecker Hospital in Portland where she was reported to be seriously paralyzed.

Miss Schneider, county nurse, told school authorities and parents in the Canyon that there was no occasion for alarm but to take certain precautions. They are:

Be on the alert for colds and flu.

See that children are given supplementary vitamins.

Report any ferrous condition immediately.

Scout Parley Set

A regional Scout meeting and dinner will be held in the social rooms of Gates high school Tuesday evening Dec. 14. A special speaker will be in attendance.

Scout leaders and committeemen from Stayton, Lyons, Mehama, Mill City and other towns in the area will be present. All adults interested in Scouting are invited to attend. The dinner is \$1.

The annual Christmas party of the Gates Women's Club will be held the evening of Dec. 16 at the home of Mrs. Joe Joaquin. A short program and exchange of gifts by the members will provide entertainment for the evening. Each member is requested to bring a gift not to exceed \$1 in price for the tree.

ARMY RECRUITERS HERE

Sgt. K. M. Smith, Salem area Air Force recruiting officer, was in Mill City Tuesday to interview prospective enlistees for the army. None were signed up.

Sgt. Smith will return again Jan. 11. He said Air-Force recruits will go to Wichita Falls, Tex., and regular army enlistees to Ft. Ord, Calif. He stated that both services are offering extensive technical training, in one case, 43 weeks of radio training.

The local headquarters will be at the postoffice.

Burning Green Wood No Joke on Bonneville Job

Newcomers to Oregon who have started out with green, wet wood to heat their home and cook by have troubles not near as great as the Byers Construction Co. which is cutting a right-of-way up the Canyon from Lyons to the Detroit damsite.

For the Byers firm has to burn several million board feet of wet and green wood along a strip of brushy land about 160 feet wide and 18 miles long.

This week the crew had progressed about five miles up from Lyons, but it's taken tons of old rubber, flame-throwers such as the army used and a lot of patience to keep the fires kindled.

Merchantable logs have been piled to the side, but smaller stuff and old, rotten timber, soaked by weeks of rain, has to be disposed of.

So, if that fire doesn't start very quickly this morning, think of Byers and his job of burning wood that's a lot wetter than any that's in your woodshed.

The same job will be encountered by the contractor who wins the bid for clearing 78 acres in the Detroit damsite area. Like Byers', his job too must be ready by spring when construction is due to begin.

\$20,000,000 Project to Be Let In February

Bids on at least \$20,000,000 of construction on the Detroit Dam will be invited by the Army Engineers soon after the first of the year.

The new announcement, made on Wednesday by Col. O. E. Walsh, district Army Engineer, in Portland, indicates that the project has been advanced by several months. Previously, Col. Walsh had said bidding would begin in the spring.

The district engineer said the formal bid invitation on the main structure which is part of the vast Willamette Valley flood control project, will be issued Jan 4 and opening will be about Feb 24.

The contract will not include the powerhouse on the Big Cliff regulating reservoir. Total cost of the dam, he said, would be about \$65 million.

Nothing in the Walsh announcement gave the reason for the apparent setting up the time table on the project.

The work will be awarded as a whole to one bidder and completion will be required in 1300 calendar days—a little over three and a half years—after notice to start.

Prospective bidders will meet with Col. Walsh early in February for a conference with materials suppliers and review of specifications, he said, and then will inspect the site.

Major features of the work to be included in the contract are:

1. Clearing the damsite area. (Apparently, new bids on a separate contract for that job are not anticipated.)

2. Diversion and care of the river during the construction period.

3. Excavation and embankments required for construction of the concrete dam foundation, stilling basin and outlet channel, approach roadway and retaining walls, and for the powerhouse.

4. Construction of the concrete dam and appurtenant structures.

Estimated materials required include 1,400,000 barrels of cement, 1,450,000 cubic yards of concrete, 400,000 cubic yards of solid rock excavation, 315,000 cubic yards of common excavation, 4,259,000 pounds of steel reinforcement, and 3,115,000 pounds of steel penstocks.

Speaking to 100 persons attending a meeting of the Willamette Project Committee in Salem Wednesday, Col. Walsh said that nearly \$50 million in damage in the Willamette Valley had resulted from floods since 1943. Even worse floods have occurred in the past, which today would do considerable destruction, he said.

Col. Walsh said \$1,266,000 was appropriated for the Detroit dam in 1948 and \$3,500,000 for the fiscal year of 1949. Most of this year's operations dealt with the relocation of the North Santiam highway, which, he said, should be opened by June 1, 1949.

HITCHMAN MILL SUSPENDS

The Hitchman Lumber Co. of Fox Valley suspended operations indefinitely last week.

Mt. Jefferson Lumber Co. and the veneer division closed Nov. 30. Present plans are to resume production Jan. 3.

The new Freres and Frank mill in Lyons plans to continue operations with a short shutdown over the holidays.

Col. Walsh also said that the Southern Pacific line will be abandoned on next July 1. Lumber and logs now transported by rail will thereafter be carried by trucks over the new road.

FIRE DIRECTOR ELECTED

Huber Ray, sawmill executive, was elected a director for the Idanha Rural Fire District. Election was held at the First Aid Station.

Charles de Sully was a dinner guest at the Fouts home and enjoyed some of the salmon they caught.

Mr. and Mrs. Haseman of the Haseman Trucking Co. and Jack Haseman and his wife spent the week end in Portland.