

Merry Christmas to You!



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

Workers from the Idanha and Detroit areas complained to the Enterprise Tuesday that it was an injustice to ask them to make the long trip to Mill City for the unemployment office examination. We think they've got a legitimate grievance.

There are perhaps a hundred or more men temporarily laid off in the Upper Canyon district.

Wouldn't it be more sensible for the unemployment commission to send one man to Detroit—where free quarters are available from R. L. Ryerson—than to ask all these workers to spend money they can ill afford to make the trip?

As it was, many workers were told to go on to Salem because the temporary staff here wasn't able to take care of them.

Unemployment insurance loses its usefulness when a man has to spend several dollars to collect \$20.

In this country the average person begins to have his doubts about Santa Claus at the age of six or seven. But the United States has taught a good part of the world to believe in a new Santa, dressed up in striped pants and plug hat, with chin whiskers.

If you are puzzled about what will happen in 1949, read the poll—backwards.

Oregon sent three turkeys to Washington this year—the one from the Salem Chamber of Commerce to President Truman—and Noblad and Ellsworth.

Willke's son wants to hold a post-mortem Republican convention to find out why they lost. Post-mortems, you know, are performed just before they bury the corpse.

Reprinted from The Statesman:

Charles Wolvert, editor of the Mill City Enterprise, looking ahead to 1949 when construction of the Detroit dam will bring in an estimated 3000 workers, shudders a bit at the headaches that will accompany the advent.

Needed will be about 1000 new home units, better community recreation, some way to find school teachers and pay them, better police protection.

The Mill City editor proposes that a conference of various agencies be held soon when plans might be laid to meet some of these problems, instead of just letting them roll in on the communities and flatten them out.

This suggestion can very properly be referred to the Willamette River Basin Commission and the unofficial Willamette Valley Project Committee. It is recalled that when Camp Adair was established the nine cities in the vicinity formed a group to co-ordinate effort and meet the various problems created by the influx of a two-division army camp. The North Santiam project is on a much smaller scale, but the municipalities nearby are much smaller and will need outside assistance.

FINED \$50

Robert Todd of Gates appeared in Breitenbush court before Justice Ed Vickers Dec. 15 and was fined \$50 and costs on a disorderly conduct charge.

Elkhorn Gets Runaround By County on Road to Gates

To the Editor:

While looking up and down the Canyon, why not peep over the hill at Elkhorn?

Elkhorn is a small community just a short four miles over the hill from the highway at Gates, yet it might as well be 100 miles away, so impassible is the road.

There are about 15 families residing in the Elkhorn community with no means of communication with the outside except by a long, crooked 15 miles of gravel road to Mehama. This road is often obstructed by slides in the winter and was completely closed for two weeks last winter when a logging truck went through a bridge across the Little North Fork.

Maintaining a school is an arduous undertaking. No teacher wants to live here when it is so difficult to get out.

Eleven children depend on this school for education. One boy of high school age walks over the hill to Gates every day to attend school. He hikes a good 10 miles every day to Gates in all kinds of weather.

What do we want? A stretch of road on one side of the road gravelled. We have petitioned the county court several times to do this but to no avail. However, if this short part were gravelled, our children could be safely transported to a good school and the rest of us wouldn't have to drive 15 miles to mail a letter.

Mrs. RAY ROBERTS,
Mehama, Ore., Box 86.

From the Editor:

The question raised is a very important one. What Mrs. Roberts reports looks like a fancy runaround by the Marion County Court.

Last spring, following the bridge breakdown mentioned in Mrs. Roberts' letter, the Mill City Chamber of Commerce petitioned the county to provide a year round road to Elkhorn. The court responded with a

promise to spend \$10,000 on improving and relocating the Gates-Elkhorn road. We were given to understand this work would start in the summer.

Came summer. Nothing was done.

In September, alarmed at the fact that the season for roadbuilding was drawing to a close, your editor called Judge Grant Murphy and said:

"Judge, I know we're sort of pore relation up here and usually are forgotten when the favors are passed around. That's why when we are promised something, we usually remember it how about the Gates-Elkhorn road?"

"What's that?" asked his honor.

We repeated it all. Then the good judge spoke up.

"Why, of course. Don't you worry about that. We're going to build that road this year."

He meant 1948, when the Republicans were running for election.

So, in a few weeks, an engineer from the county wandered up this direction, scratched around the hill and mournfully reported to residents in the road vicinity he couldn't find any rock. They'd have to wait.

We put this question to Judge Murphy, an amiable fellow and up to now a pretty good public servant:

"Was your promise a political one, calculated to get votes for the county Republican administration, or did you mean it?"

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bodeker of Alsea visited relatives in Lyons last week. They were guests at the home of his sister, Mrs. George Berry and family.

Mrs. Merrill Brassfield and her sister, Miss Helen Queen, visited last week at the Fred Brassfield home in Monmouth.

Wolves Split Even in 4 Tilts

Mill City High School's Timberwolves were even up this week, with two victories and two defeats in non-league games.

Tuesday night the local basketball team traveled to Salem to play the Salem JV's and were defeated by a score of 25 to 43. Lea Pool was high point man for Mill City with 15 to his credit. Miller scored 6, Verbeck 4.

Hunter was at forward and Miller, who regularly plays center, was at forward, Verbeck at center. Lawrence Poole was the other guard and substitutes were Thornley, Baltimore, L. Thornley, Keys and Wirick.

Monday night Mill City won by 64 to 39 against the hitherto undefeated Valsea Tigers. Scoring lead was held by Jerry Hunter, with 24, followed closely by Miller with 19; Thornley 11; Verbeck, 9; Leo Poole 6; Lawrence Poole, 4; and Wayne Wirick, 1.

The Timberwolves met their second defeat of the season at Stayton last Thursday night, losing to the Stayton Eagles 25 to 14 in the first game of the two-night tournament. High man for Mill City was Leo Poole with six to his credit. Other individual scoring: Jerry Hunter, 3; Verbeck, 2; Miller, 1; Thornley, 1; and Lawrence Poole, 1. High scorer for Stayton was Lyons with 11.

Friday night the Wolves were more fortunate winning third place in the tournament by downing the Aumsville Rangers 26 to 22; Hunter was high point man for Mill City with 8; Leo Poole, 2; Verbeck, 7; Thornley,

Horner Store, Landmark in Gates, Is Sold

Harold and Collis Heath of Gates have purchased the A. B. Horner store from its owner, Mrs. Ruby Horner and will take possession the first of the year. The sale was completed this week.

The Heath brothers are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Heath and have lived in Gates most of their lives.

Mrs. Horner also has sold her home to Mr. and Mrs. Willis Thomas, formerly of Jefferson, who have lived in this area for some time. He is employed with the Kuckenbergs Construction Co. Mrs. Horner plans to go to California and may visit in the East.

A. B. Horner purchased the store in 1910 from E. L. Payne and operated the place till his death in 1946.

Mrs. Horner has been in the store for 37 years, since her marriage in 1912. It is a coincidence that when Mr. Horner bought the store he sold the home he and his mother were then occupying to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Heath, the new proprietors' parents.

The name of the establishment will be changed to eHath Bros.

Two other real estate deals were completed in Gates this week.

L. L. Short purchased the garage and machine shop west of Gates belonging to Richard Thomas of Cottage Grove.

H. M. Agee of Mill City has bought 23 acres from Steve Champ from which he will cut piling. The acreage adjoins the Champ property west of town.

It is reported that Dave Reid will start the construction of a large service station soon after the first of the year on property on the corner west of the postoffice.

6; and Lawrence Poole, 3. High man for the Rangers was Delbert Dalke with 9.

Sublimity defeated Aumsville giving them the privilege to play off with Stayton Friday night for first place honors. Stayton won

The Junior prom was held Saturday night with about 100 in attendance. Many alumni were there. The auditorium was decorated in mistletoe and silver stars. At one end of the auditorium there was a huge Christmas tree.

During intermission W. L. Krause of Salem, a former teacher, sang two Christmas songs.

Friday afternoon at 12:45 the glee clubs of Mill City High School will put on a musical program for their parents.

The glee clubs caroled Christmas songs throughout the town Wednesday night. They were served refreshments by Mrs. Powellson and Mrs. Cree following.

Christmas vacation for the high school starts Friday, and school will be dismissed after the program which starts at noon. Classes will reopen Jan. 3.

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Instead of exchanging gifts among themselves this year, the students of Mill City High School are bringing gifts to send to the Children's Home in Corvallis. The gifts will be put under the Christmas tree here and be mailed before Christmas day.

Loot Finances Drinks for All-- Including Victim

The drink Jack Lake, proprietor of the Silver Saddle Service Station here, was offered last Saturday, wasn't exactly free—he learned later.

In fact it was a \$120 shot.

Jack was waiting on trade Saturday evening and was outside of the shop while Arthur J. Jaatinen, 26, a construction worker, was inside, apparently just warming himself.

After Jaatinen left, Jack happened to look in his cash drawer. About \$120 was missing.

Jaatinen, meanwhile, began to show evidence of a newly acquired wealth, when he had appeared to be broke around town for the past week or more. The local taxi business boomed. The tavern patrons were having a hard time paying for their own brew—for Jaatinen was there with his cash on the bar. He even wanted the recipients of his largess to keep the change.

In the course of the evening he paid a call on the green-front grocery—called by some the state liquor store.

Jaatinen felt so grateful for the pleasant evening he was enjoying that it occurred to him—he ought to show his appreciation in some way to his original benefactor, Jack Lake.

So he returned to the filling station and offered Jack a share in his check.

The rest of Jaatinen's evening is obscured behind an alcoholic fog.

Next day there was to be a reckoning. Chief of Police J. T. King reckoned. Jaatinen went to jail. Moreover he confessed that it wasn't nobody else. In the course of the evening he had managed to spend all but \$30 of the Silver Saddle's silver.

Jaatinen was lodged at city expense for a day or so. He's now in the Albany courthouse cooler. Now the treats are on the county.

Grange Officers Installed in Scio

Installation of officers was held on Thursday evening at Scio for the Scio, Santiam Valley and Evening Star Granges.

Mrs. Mildred Norman, state deputy from Salem, and Mrs. Alta Bodeker, marshal from Lyons, installed the following from Santiam Grange:

Tony Moravec, master; Frank White, overseer; Vivian White lecturer; Wilson Stevens, steward; Frank Basil, assistant steward; gate keeper, Alta Bodeker; secretary, Fern Sletto; treasurer, Anna B. Julian; Ceres, Blanche Wagner; Pomona, Lela May White; Flora, Elvinia Franklin.

Mr. Moravec was installed as overseer of the Pomona Grange and Mr. Stevens on the executive committee.

HURT IN AUTO CRASH

Mrs. Walter Thomas, Gates, suffered painful injuries and was hospitalized for a day as the result of an automobile accident Friday, near Lebanon. A car entering the highway from a side road and the one driven by Mrs. Thomas met broadside, completely demolishing Mrs. Thomas' car.

YOUTH IN AUTO CRASH

Ernest Podrabsky Jr., 16, escaped serious injury Monday when the car he was driving got out of control on icy pavement just west of town and crashed into a tree. The automobile was badly damaged. The youth was scratched about the face.

Crime on Rise In Northwest, Canyon Told

Rise in the number of thefts in the Canyon and throughout the Northwest brought warnings this week from law enforcement agencies that more precautions should be taken.

Locally Chief J. T. King stressed the need for residents to report instances of thievery and suspicious activities immediately.

King made a special request for all businesses to leave a night light on, so that their premises can be patrolled more efficiently.

King said he expected to have more than the usual amount of thieving this winter. Other cities, he said, are finding themselves in the midst of a crime wave.

This week about \$175 worth of aluminum roofing and siding was stolen at the airport. Byron Davis, owner of the strip, said it was material being used for construction of a second hangar.

The theft really hurts the whole community because the airport is becoming a popular landing field and Davis had hoped to have it in shape to handle more traffic by summer.

Ralph Young is being held by Marion County authorities on a bad check charge. Young allegedly gave Fred Lindemann, Lyons merchant, a phony check for a pistol.

Unreported till recently was the theft of about \$80 from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Lanphear who operate the Milk Shake Shack east of Mill City.

Another case was that of an attempt to defraud Don Smith, local service station operator. Two men drove up to the pumps for gasoline. Smith was suspicious of them. They asked to have the oil checked, and Smith took the opportunity to get his gun in the station. After the service was completed, one of the strangers said:

"What are you going to do for money?"

Smith merely indicated his pistol to the customers and said:

"I'll collect, all right."

The strangers changed their tune immediately, and said:

"We were only kiddin'."

POLIO VICTIM IMPROVING

Claudia Fry, who is at Doernbecher Hospital for treatment for polio is improving. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Fry of Detroit.

DRIVE TESTS WEDNESDAY

A drivers' license examiner will be on duty in Mill City Wednesday at the Fire Hall between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., according to an announcement received from the office of the secretary of state.

Persons wishing licenses or permits to drive are asked to get in touch with the examiner well ahead of the scheduled closing hour in order to assure completion of their applications with a minimum of delay.

BURNED BY LAMP

Mrs. Les Mullen is recovering in her home from burns sustained when a paper caught fire from a lamp she had lit during a recent power failure.

Mr. and Mrs. Melbourne Rambo, Mrs. Norman Garrison, Mrs. Burrell Cole were elected to membership by transfer into Santiam Rebekah lodge at the regular meeting last week. Also elected to membership by initiation was Bertha Shepherd.

Quit Whistlin'



ESTHER WILLIAMS, who appears in "On an Island With You", at the Mill City Theater Sunday and Monday.