

# The North Santiam's Mill City Enterprise

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## Looking Up and Down the Canyon

By CHARLES WOLVERTON

Today, perhaps even while this is being printed, the contract on the big Detroit Dam may have been let. Opening of bids was scheduled for Feb. 24.

This project poses for the North Santiam Canyon and its people the biggest problem they ever have been faced with. It is the largest single undertaking ever attempted in the state, if one considers that the dams on the Columbia are two-state undertakings.

In a few weeks or months we won't know what hit us. No one can know the answers to all the questions that are to come.

Fortunately, there are several organizations ready to meet the tasks. The Mill City Chamber of Commerce is back on its feet, and now its on its toes. Detroit has a businessmen's group which has the ability to handle many of the puzzles that will confront that area.

We don't know what's coming but there's a disposition on all sides of willingness to tackle problems and not hide from them.

It's fortunate that Mill City incorporated two years ago. Without a city government, we'd be pretty helpless in the face of things to come.

The town, rightly, has been cautious about biting off more than it could chew. But now there ought to be a greater boldness. City improvements which have been on the shelf need reviewing again. The time to begin on them is approaching. There never will be a time in the future when this community, after the dam is built, can expect as great an addition of capital and development as in the next three or four years.

Brotherhood Week is being observed throughout the nation. We hope the week won't go by with nothing more than a few pious and well-meaning phrases about tolerance and good will toward other than one's own national or racial origins. You can't just let it go at that, any more than we can dismiss the parable of the Good Samaritan as a mere sentimental idea.

If there is anything of merit in the principle upon which our nation was founded—that all men are created equal—it follows that we have certain obligations to insure that right for others—whose skins are of a different color than ours, whose speech varies from our speech, whose ways and beliefs differ.

Race prejudice is mainly economic. Race hate stems from envy of those whom we feel might be better off than we, or from motives, also economic, of exploiting the labor of a minority we believe to be inferior. Booker T. Washington once said, "If you wish to keep the Negro in the ditch, you have to stay in the ditch yourself." What idea better typifies the South, which has been beguiled by a tradition that part of its people are inferior and necessarily the servants of the other part. Yet in most respects the South is behind the rest of the country—in wage rates, housing, education, etc., for both white and black—proof that the false theory of racial superiority fails even to benefit even the so-called superrace. The late Herr Hitler also did not succeed in making the idea work any better.

Equality is not a phoney phrase, and wasn't meant as such in the American tradition. Equality means: That a Negro, for instance, has a right to as good an education, as good a job—if he's qualified, as good a seat in a movie or restaurant—in short, an equality in the pursuit of happiness. That those who deprive him of those rights, by personal prejudice and tampering with the Constitution, are breaking the law of man if not the law of the land.

That persons of different tradition such as Jews also have equal rights under our laws with gentiles. That those who sneer at Jews are likewise conspiring to deprive others who possess the same precious privileges out of their rights.

That the foreign born likewise are equal to the native born; that those whose families came over a generation before are bound to respect the

# OPEN DETROIT DAM BIDS

## Petition Seeks To Revoke Incorporation

A petition to disincorporate Mill City has been drawn up and is being circulated throughout the town.

The petition alleges improper procedure in the original incorporation petition.

Henry Baltimore, an old resident, had a petition in his possession Wednesday, and he was offering it for signature.

News of the petition was told Wednesday night at the city council. The council members withheld comment.

Petition circulators, it was said, spoke of a \$200,000 bond issue contemplated by the council. No such item has been discussed or even in any way thought of, council members said.

## Red Cross Seeking Local Chairman

A Marion County Red Cross official was in Mill City Tuesday seeking a local chairman for the drive which begins March 1.

Mrs. Alex Bodeker again has accepted the chairmanship for Lyons. In a pre-opening appeal Gov. Douglas McKay said:

"In Oregon we need no reminder of the magnificent work of the American Red Cross. We have experienced at first hand the real meaning of Red Cross disaster relief.

"Linked with the memory of last year's Columbia River floods is the memory of the tireless efforts of the Red Cross in providing food and shelter, comfort for shattered families, and long-term aid in reconstructing lives and homes.

"Continued disaster preparedness in the months ahead is a vital necessity. To carry out these essential activities in the coming year, along with programs of health and safety education, the Red Cross will seek a minimum of \$60,000,000 nationally in the 1949 fund campaign beginning March 1. I am sure that our Oregon citizens will respond wholeheartedly in the coming fund appeal."

## LOT WINNER TO BE PICKED

The American Legion has announced that the winner of the lot in the Shepherd addition will be picked at the new servicemen's hall on the Mill road March 3.

The lot is 50 by 100 feet and is a good homesite.

## Increase Shown In Construction

Warmer days this week increased the tempo of building activities in the Mill City area.

Under construction by Frank Rada is a group of three tourist cabins on his property on the Marion side of the river. Roy Beebe and Martin Hansen are doing the work.

The cabins will have about 600 square feet of floor space each, plus car ports. Floor will be of cement.

Mr. Beebe recently completed the first of several planned small homes on property near his apartment. The houses, scheduled to be built at a cost of between \$3500 and \$4000, are planned as permanent homes, now temporary cabins for the dam building period.

Mr. Beebe also has completed a cabinet shop on the same property. The rights of those who became citizens later.

Above this welter of law and right stands a higher edict—the Christian precept that all men are brothers.

Let those who condescend, who hate, who condemn and mock nationalities other than their own square their prejudices with Christian American principles and see how they fare.

## Dog Performs As Broncbuster

Stony Wells' three-year-old dog Mike ought to join the rodeo.

When Mr. Wells says "Jump" the dog will leap up on the back of his horse. Then Mr. Wells hollers "Buck" to the horse and it really rears and bucks. Mike, however, calmly remains on its back, in true broncbuster style.

Finally at the command "Down!" Mike jumps off as nonchalantly as Roy Rogers climbing off a wooden studio nag.

## City to Buy Gravel Truck

The city council Wednesday night authorized the purchase of a gravel truck needed for the city streets.

Mayor Harold Kliever said the vehicle would pay for itself in less than a year by savings on hauling gravel. The pickup now owned by the city may be traded in on the truck, he said.

The council also interviewed G. C. McKinney, Salem civil engineer, for a possible post as part-time consultant on city construction problems.

## Rockets Win League Trophy

The Rockets, Mill City's town basketball team, won the Santiam League championship with a one-sided record of ten victories and one defeat for the season.

The league trophy is now in display in the window of Miss Hendrickson's store.

Turner, Aumsville, Sublimity and Mill City made up the league this year. Idanha, which has been in the Santiam group, had to stay out this year because of highway difficulties and squad disagreements kept out Stayton.

Ken Chance managed the local five. The squad included Joe Lalack, Don Roy, Woody Heller, Lee Manning, Gale Carey, Don Carey, Ronnie Johnson, and Joe Boyle.

**CHILD HURT IN CAR FALL**  
Mary Delaney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Delaney, Lowell, Ore., was injured Sunday when she fell from the family automobile near Jefferson, while en route home from a visit in Mill City.

The injured child, who was taken to a Eugene hospital, is a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Davis of Mill City.

## Spook Takes Over At Local Mill

T. J. Stock, watchman at the Mill City Planning and Processing Co., was enjoying the evening in his quarters at the mill during a recent snow storm when he heard a strange rattle.

It sounded like the crane was operating. Since the mill wasn't going, the mystery was really confounding.

So Mr. Stock said, "Confound it!" and went out to see what was the matter.

He went out of doors. For a watchman, he had more than an ordinary amount of watching ahead of him. There was the rane, bumping back and fourth, and not a soul in sight.

The little man who wasn't there was doing some fancy work with that crane, and since Mr. Stock didn't see him he did the next best thing—he called Carl Kelly, the manager.

Mr. Kelly looked around for Ya-hoodi, couldn't find him, and then decided to check the wiring.

The crane motor was short-circuited.

## EXTRA!

### Slides, Snow Pile Up Roads, Snarl Lines

Snow and slides kept the Detroit Telephone Co. staff busy last week repairing lines. Mrs. Johnson reported only ten local lines in working order Monday, after the storm. Lines between Mill City and Detroit were knocked out by slides. A crew of ten men and four trucks were busy repairing the damage.

Telephone lines between Stayton and Mill City were out over the week end and had not been restored Monday evening. However, the lines to Salem were in working condition.

Rain, snow and slides dominated the Elkhorn scene the past week. A steady rain Wednesday and Thursday turned the roads into rivers and the bridge areas into veritable lakes, where the water was trapped by snow banks on each side.

The county crew was kept busy clearing out the old slide and opening culverts. The bridge on Lampher hill was deluged with rocks, logs and water.

A new slide blocked the road on Lampher hill, caving in and sliding from way up on the hill.

The small bridge at Frank's mill has been completely washed away and the road to Sischos and the Elkhorn Guest Ranch is impassible. A slide across the road further up the river completely isolates the guest ranch.

The alternate truck route above the downtown area was a shambles from the heavy flow of water off the bluff.

Tony Ziebert was kept busy for several days when water coming off the hill flooded his place and filled up his basement.

Charles Kelly also was pumping water from his basement over the week end.

Tom Both spent Sunday with the fire department pumping water out of the basement of his home. It flooded out his furnace.

Frank's mill resumed operations Tuesday morning, and the improvement in the weather indicated that lumber operations would begin to get back to normal fairly soon.

The mill had to halt work after a few hours because of high water, but called back its crew Wednesday.

Willis Potter announced that the Mill City Manufacturing Co. which had planned to begin production on March 1 had to postpone the date to March 7 because a heavy coat of ice remains on the mill pond.

At the local mill the planer and loading crews will start Tuesday, March 8.

The big mill closed down about the first of December, partly because of a falling market. This has been its longest shutdown in many years.

## Mills Ending Long Layoffs

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## ACREAGE SOLD

Dr. David J. Ferguson has purchased about 50 acres of land on the North Santiam River below Mill City from Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ward. He plans to build a house in the future.

## SERVICEMEN BUY BUILDING

The American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have joined in the purchase of a building for a servicemen's hall. The building formerly housed Don's Cabinet Shop. It will be converted for a meeting and recreation hall.

## Portland Firm Low With \$28 Millions

\$3.5 Million Below U. S. Estimate

Consolidated Builders, Inc., a Nevada corporation with offices in Portland, was low of four bidders for the construction of the Detroit Dam on the North Santiam River. The bid which was opened in the office of the Army Engineers in Portland Thursday, was \$28,230,509, about \$3.5 million below the engineer's estimate.

The bids were opened by Col. O. E. Walsh, district Army engineer at 2 p.m.

The Consolidated Builders is managed by Al Bauer, president of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. The company includes several contractors, and the Henry Kaiser interests are reportedly part of the group.

The engineers' estimate was \$31,541,856 based on a fair cost to the contractors. Other bidders were Guy F. Atkinson with \$32,722,282; Santiam Constructors, \$34,798,775 and Morrison Knutson, \$32,889,995.

Final approval of the bid must be made by Col. Theron D. Weaver Pacific district engineer. The Portland office expected action on the bid in three or four days. Inasmuch as it is below the federal estimate, approval appears assured.

The Detroit dam will require 1,500,000 cubic yards of concrete, will rise 429 feet above the North Santiam and will be 1580 feet across at the crest. Claude Beck, resident engineer at Mongold for the Army Engineers, told a Chamber of Commerce meeting here last Thursday.

Mr. Beck, who has been in the Canyon area for the past two years and has guided much of the preparatory work on the \$60,000,000 hydroelectric project, gave a comprehensive picture of the work ahead, stressing the safeguards which have been taken in the planning to assure a sound dam structure.

Mr. Beck advised the local Chamber to contact the contractor who wins the bid and offer him help in the solution of his housing problems. The resident engineer stated that no further expansion at Mongold, the government construction camp, is contemplated, and that it would be up to the contractor to house his workers, which Mr. Beck estimated

would number at least 1500 just on the dam construction. (Mongold will house about 350 workers, and there are 48 apartment unit, which will be occupied largely by Army Engineer personnel.)

Mr. Beck estimated the reservoir area to be cleared at about 4000 acres not including the damsite area of about 78 acres. He said that 500,000 cubic yards of dirt and rock will be excavated. The spillway will have a 370 foot drop.

The employment of local workers will be stressed, he said, in order to decrease housing problems.

Flood control and power are the primary purposes of the dam, he said. Three 50,000 kw generators will be installed, and Big Cliff dam, which is to be constructed concurrently with the big project three and one-half miles above it, will be 150 feet high and will generate about 16,000 kw.

Permanent housing, about 48 units is soon to get under way. This project is for a permanent community for employees when the dam is finished. The dam is scheduled for completion in 1953.

Mr. Beck sketched the recreation possibilities of the vast lake which will be created by the dam. In the case of Dorena reservoir, a much smaller project and farther away from large population centers than the Detroit dam, over 53,000 persons were registered as visitors last year and 23,000 boats were used on the lake.

It was his guess that the Detroit reservoir would be far more popular even than Dorena.

## State to Study Davis Airport

The Davis Airport here will be reviewed soon by state aeronautics officials for its suitability for commercial uses.

William Bartlett, state aeronautics director, informed Byron Davis, owner of the landing strip, that his staff would inspect the field and work out with Mr. Davis such plans as are necessary to qualify it for commercial use.

The airport, upon which a new and wider strip is now being graded, is likely to be an important strip during the dam building period. Contractors use nearby fields to speed up the shipment of machine parts, especially when breakdowns delay construction work.

The new strip will be bladed and rolled as soon as weather permits, and the runway will be seeded for a firm sod.

## DEER FEEDING CONTINUED

Another feeding of hay was distributed at White Water, Mayflower, Boulder Creek and other parts of the Canyon last week for the elk and deer. It has been reported the first distribution was pretty well cleaned up. Ed Bangs, Detroit truckman, delivered the hay to Detroit. The feed was furnished by the game commission.

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WALSUP'S AIDE GIVEN DETROIT DAM POST

Lt. Col. John W. Miles, special assistant to Col. O. E. Walsh, district Army engineer, has been assigned as resident engineer at Detroit dam. He has been in charge of flood control design and construction programs in the Portland district.

Col Miles is a native of Michigan and a graduate of its university. He spent four years at Bonneville and had engineering assignments in Mexico and England during the war.

He returned to Portland as a civilian engineer and was recalled to service first in Mitchell Field, N.Y., and later in Portland.

## Folk Dancers Star in Festival

Mill City and Seio folk dancers were featured performers Sunday in Portland in a statewide festival viewed by an audience of more than 2000.

The local group performed the Beseda, Czech national dance. Couples from Mill City were Mr. and Mrs. Aray Podrabsky and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Toman. Alternates were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Veness and Mr. and Mrs. George Veteto.

The local organization, the Czech Jolly Dancers, are affiliated with the Folk Dance Federation of Oregon, which sponsored the festival held in the new St. Johns Community Center. The hall was jammed, and hundreds were turned away.

The colorful program featured 17 nationalities in gay native costumes dancing to music characteristic of their respective countries. Besides the Beseda there were American square dances by a Portland group, Swedish and Italian group dances in the featured acts.

The federation co-ordinates the activities of many groups in the state. Mr. Podrabsky is president of the local unit.

Plans are being made for another festival in May. The local group has opened its membership to all who are interested.