

# The North Santiam's Mill City Enterprise

Serving the North Santiam  
Valley

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

VOLUME V, NUMBER 9

MILL CITY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1949

\$2.00 A YEAR, 5 CENTS A COPY

## Looking Up and Down the Canyon

By CHARLES WOLVERTON

A week or so ago some local residents, with an eye for bargains, were in Salem. They went to a Salem grocery store and bought a big order. They had other business so they asked to leave the box at the store to be picked up later.

An hour or so later they were ready to return to Mill City (which also has bargains in its grocery stores) and they couldn't find the store where they had parked their vehicles. So they hunted the whole town over, but, to them, at least, that store had vanished from the face of the land.

They gave up, and the man decided to come back to Salem the next day. He filled up his gas tank (you don't do that with hay these days) and headed for Salem the next day. After a long search the grocery bargains were located. He put the box in the car and headed for a service station and parking lot.

You can figure out what comes next. When it came time to go home he couldn't find the parking lot. This time he was not only minus his bargain box of specials—he didn't even have a car to carry them home in.

So another search got under way. After hours of hunting he found the car. To make a happy ending, no one had gotten into the car and stolen the food, which often happens to Salem shoppers.

Without further event he got home with his purchases, having saved at least a penny on half of the items bought, unless perhaps a can or so were spoiled, in which case it would take another tankful of gas to get back to Salem to exchange them.

The moral of this little tale is plain, at least to those who try to do most of their trading at home, if not to those who waste hours of time, gallons of gas and wear and tear on automobiles chasing bargains out of the Canyon.

The lesson, scholars, is: TRADE AT HOME.

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This is a democratic country. This is a democratic newspaper. The question has come up locally that Mill City, after two years as an incorporated town, ought to dissolve the municipality and go back to the former arrangement. The Enterprise offers to both sides a full opportunity to express their views.

The Enterprise opposed incorporation when the matter came to a vote, not because it was against forming a municipality, but because of the boundaries then designated. We're unqualifiedly for incorporation now, for reasons which will be submitted in successive issues. But both sides have a right to have their say in this paper.

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The condition of the streets after the past winter ought to be argument enough for a real paving program. Here's a suggestion how it might be started:

Under the municipal laws of most states, and I presume that applies here, any group of property owners may, by petition, ask that a special assessment be levied on them for an improvement in connection with their own property.

For instance, if the homeowners in a single block wanted to have curbs and pavement, they could petition the city council for such improvement. The council then would provide for a special assessment on the property owners in that block. Bonds, backed by the city, then would be floated, and the property owners would pay the cost of the curbs and pavement in installments, usually over a ten or 20 year period.

Pavement and curbing on any one 50 foot lot—that is, to the middle of the street, should not cost more than \$200 or \$300. Spread over a ten-year period, the cost would be slight, and the value of the property would be greatly enhanced.

At least a complete block would have to be undertaken at any one time.

We're offering a prize, the envy of the rest of the town, to the first neighborhood that starts in paving.

It's just a guess, but we'll venture that most of the town would follow suit if one group of property owners

## Forks Miners Trapped; Fear They Starve

A mining company in the Little North Fork area was working feverishly this week with caterpillar tractors to reach six miners at the Amalgamated mine, 15 miles above Elkhorn, trapped since December by avalanches and snow.

Food was running low for the marooned miners, and it was estimated it still would take three or four days to reach the mine area, cut off now by two avalanches which cover the road and tons of ice and snow that blanket the bridges and road.

Mr. and Mrs. Boeman are two of the people trapped at the mine. Mrs. Boeman is a daughter of the owner, Mr. Hewitt.

Mr. and Mrs. Trippet, who live at the mine, were halted several weeks ago from returning to the mine and have been staying at the Elkhorn Guest Ranch, which also has been isolated part of the time. About five feet of snow lies on the ground. The plight of the marooned miners cannot wait till it melts.

Ercil Wilson, Mehama logging operator, furnished the two "cats" now at work trying to break through the slides. Mr. Trippet was able to get from the Guest Ranch last week and reach Mr. Wilson.

A group of Mehama business people went through mud and snow Sunday to watch the rescue efforts. The Amalgamated mine was reopened about two years ago by Mr. Hewitt. An extensive development of roads was undertaken, and at that time the plans were to set up a bunker for loading ore at the railroad in Lyons.

The mine was worked until about 1920. Copper, zinc and some gold are said to be plentiful in certain parts of that region.

## Garden Club Plan To be Presented

A meeting to organize a garden club for Mill City will be held in the high school auditorium Friday, Mar. 11.

Officers of the Stayton Garden Club will be present to offer suggestions and help set up an organization.

Many persons who Robert Veness, city councilman, talked to here this week were greatly interested in the plan for a garden club. A good turnout at the meeting is expected. The public is invited.

Immediate project will be the beautification of the city.

At a later date the choice of a town flower will be made.

Mr. Veness stressed early action so that garden planning can be under way this spring.

## SNOWBOUND COUPLE ARRIVE

Gene Armstrong, local depot agent, and his wife arrived in Mill City Sunday after several days of being snowbound on a train in Wyoming.

They reported the snow was piled higher than the train they were on. A pleasant crowd enjoyed a fine time at the dance in the Bohemian hall Saturday night. Music was furnished by Tony Ficek's orchestra.

Louie Drapella and wife of Salem attended the dance Saturday night here.

## OLD RESIDENT DIES

William Carter, 70, long a resident of the Canyon, died Sunday of a paralytic stroke in Idanha where he had been making his home for some time. He had lived in nearly all the towns in the Canyon during his 70 years. He is survived by his wife, Anna Carter, and son William.

were to start. Certainly the council would offer all aid and encouragement to those who wanted paving, and there's some equipment already on hand to help.

The next few years, while Mill City is enjoying the benefits of vast federal expenditures, is the time to do the job, which will pay off in terms of thousands of dollars in increased property values.

## AFL Signing Up Workers for Dam

Don Gessner, Canyon business agent for the American Federation of Labor building trades, announced this week he was taking applications for jobs at the Detroit dam—workers supplied by the union to the contractor.

Registration is being held from 7 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. at the Gessner camp at Niagara.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Peters of Prineville are the parents of a baby girl born Feb. 2. Mrs. Peters is the former Mary Lou Houston of Mill City.

## Freres-Frank's New Mill in Lyons Opens

The big Freres-Frank Lumber Co. mill in Lyons got into full-scale operation Monday, and the new establishment, one of the most modern in the Canyon passed the test without a hitch.

The mill, which Ted Freres and Amandus Frank began a year ago, uses a band saw and thus conserves considerable lumber over the circular type.

The mill has an estimated capacity of about 75,000 board feet daily, is equipped with a planing shed and produces its power from steam made from burning wood waste.

The severe winter delayed the opening which was scheduled for last fall.

Lumber operations were getting under way up and down the Canyon this week after one of the most severe winters and longest shutdowns in the history of the area.

The Idanha Veneer Co., closed since early December, resumed operations Feb. 23.

B. & W. Logging Co. started partial operations Feb. 21, after being out of the woods since Dec. 3.

Most of the mills were back at work in Lyons, and the big Mt. Jefferson mill was going full blast.

Frank's mill west of Mill City was again at work, and a new mill being built by Oregon Pulp and Paper Co. east of town was shaping up, according to Tony Ziebert, local manager.

The Mill City Planning and Processing Co. was setting up a big timber planer (bull planer) at the local mill at an estimated cost of about \$10,000. The planer was salvaged out of a fire several years ago which burned the shed, and has been rebuilt recently.

## BUS RESUMES PASS RUN

The Hamman Stage Lines resumed operating between Salem and Bend Feb. 25.

Santiam Pass (Hogg Pass) has been closed since Feb. 10 because of the deep snow and slides. Previous to the warmer weather there was 200 inches of snow at the junction.

## SCOUT OFFICIAL COMING

Eric Soderberg, executive for the Cascade area Boy Scouts, will be in Mill City Friday night at the school auditorium where he will meet with parents of prospective scouts. Twenty-four boys in the Mill City area, 9 and 10 years of age, have expressed their desire to become cub scouts.

## FIRE SWEEPS GRASS AREA

A grass fire near the Arey Podrabsky home got out of control on Monday, and the fire department was called to halt the blaze, which was fanned by a high wind.

Ila May Albright was operated on for appendicitis last week in a Salem hospital. She returned home Wednesday.

Mrs. J. O. Herron was operated on last week in Salem Memorial Hospital. Pat Herron, who is attending school in Portland, was home for the week end to see his mother.

Lois Hart is again confined to her home with a severe cold.

Mrs. Lois Walker is now working at the Bank Cafe.

Mrs. Ernest Brown has returned to her job at the Mill City Bakery.

## Start on Dam Awaited

### Bonneville Seeks Bidders On Lyons-Detroit Power Line

Bids for the construction of a 230 kva power line between Lyons and the site of the Detroit Dam were called for Feb. 21 by the Bonneville Power Administration. It was announced in Eugene this week by W. E. Trommerhausen, manager of the southwest district.

Much of the tower equipment already has been spotted along the right-of-way.

Bids will be opened in Portland March 15.

The specifications for the transmission line, which is a part of the Detroit-Goshen line, provide for the construction of about 21.4 miles of line located in Marion and Linn Counties, consisting of one single circuit steel tower, 113 double circuit steel towers and one wood pole structure. Completion is scheduled in 120 calendar days.

### Fire and Snow Loss \$50,000 At Breitenbush

A report of damage totaling \$50,000 to buildings at the famous Canyon resort, Breitenbush Springs, was brought to Detroit Tuesday by two men who skied out of the snowbound region east of here.

The men were E. C. Kennedy of the Lower Springs resort and William Van Buren, a caretaker at the resort.

The two men told the Detroit correspondent of the Enterprise that the general store and postoffice at Breitenbush Hot Springs had burned to the ground. The bath house adjacent to the swimming pool, was crushed to the ground by the weight of eight feet of snow. The dance hall, they reported, also collapsed, and many small cabins broke down under the terrific weight. In another structure a new truck and an old one were demolished by the collapse of the roof. The fire was reported to have occurred Feb. 8.

The entire resort area has been cut off from the outside by unusually heavy snow since December. The nearest to the resort reached recently was about Humbug Creek. A haylift to feed starving deer and elk in the region reached that point recently in special army vehicles.

There were no reports of damage to the main lodge or to the flumes which carry thousands of gallons of lava-warmed water from the springs. The two men appeared fresh and strong after their long trek of ten miles or more on skis.

### PTA PLANS FATHERS NIGHT AT NEXT MEETING

The Thursday, March 10 meeting of the Mill City Parent-Teacher Assn will be Fathers night when the dads will have the say about the program, the entertainment and even the refreshments.

A grand evening of fun is promised everyone who attends. A prize will be given to the class, either grade or high school, which records the largest turnout of fathers. Mrs. John Muir and Mrs. Elmer Shaw are in charge of this contest and will figure the winning class on a percentage basis.

Martin Hanse in chairman of the program, and Principal Henry Bayless of the high school is in charge of the refreshments.

### HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

The seniors won the volleyball championship last Friday afternoon by first defeating the juniors and then the freshmen, by scores of 46 to 41 and 40 to 17, respectively.

The juniors and freshmen played off their tie Tuesday with the latter winning 30 to 26 to win second place.

In basketball a tournament already was under way, with the freshmen beating the sophomores, 30 to 12, and the juniors topping the seniors 25 to 13.

Next intramural games will be on Friday with the Marion County clerk Friday afternoon. The ping pong at Salem last week for assigned bus-tournament is well on its way with iness name certificates were: Donald the second round of play about to and Edith Striggow for the Santiam Sheet Metal Shop; and Max J. Koliver, Santiam Supply, dealing in electrical.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Shuey entertained officers of the Eastern Starples.

### Old Home Week

When J. C. (Doc) Kimmel, president of the local Chamber of Commerce and druggist, met Al Bauer, manager of Consolidated Builders, the latter called him by name and recalled a college function both had attended at the University of Oregon 30 years before.

It was their first meeting since college days when they were a class apart. Doc is still amazed.

Mr. Bauer also is a president of a Chamber of Commerce—in Portland.

Mr. Bauer is considered one of the best technicians in dam construction in the nation and was in key posts on most of the great projects in the West.

### Loggers Form Clearing Firm For Reservoir

Six logging firms, five of them from the North Santiam area and one from the South Santiam, combined Friday night in Stayton into a company which will bid on clearing the Detroit Dam reservoir.

Steps to incorporate will be undertaken immediately. The meeting was held in the office of Walter Bell, Stayton attorney, who has transacted a great deal of the logging industry's business for many years.

The logging concerns include the Gooch Logging Co. of Sweet Home, Thomas Bros. Logging Co. of Mill City, Bevier and Wagner of Mehama, Boring and Mansveld of Mehama, the Schoenhauer Logging Co., Stayton, Mike Schwindt logging firm of Lyons and Ed Goschie of Mill City.

Elected as president was Fred Gooch of Sweet Home; vice president, Walter Thomas, Mill City, and Charles Wolverton, Mill City editor, secretary-treasurer. The corporation to be formed will elect permanent officers.

The company has been in the process of formation for about a month. Several of those in the present company conferred several weeks ago with Col. O. E. Walsh, district army engineer in charge of the Detroit project, and were encouraged to submit a bid on the clearing, which comprises more than 4000 acres. The logging group is in contact with the low bidders on the dam, Consolidated Builders, Inc., of Portland in regard to clearing 200 or more acres under its contract.

The Boring and Mansveld Co. has made an extensive study of the region to be cleared. They reported that only a small part of the area is practicable for the use of big equipment and that most of it would be a "hand show."

### DETROIT GETS 2 BUSINESSES

Two new business establishments will open in Detroit in the near future.

Next intramural games will be on Friday with the Marion County clerk Friday afternoon. The ping pong at Salem last week for assigned bus-tournament is well on its way with iness name certificates were: Donald the second round of play about to and Edith Striggow for the Santiam Sheet Metal Shop; and Max J. Koliver, Santiam Supply, dealing in electrical.

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The Canyon marked time this week as it awaited the announcement of a contract award on the Detroit Dam.

Final approval of the low bid of \$28 million made by Consolidated Builders, Inc., Portland, was expected soon from Col. Theron Weaver, Pacific district army engineer.

Meanwhile, officials of the company, which is allied to the Henry Kaiser interests, were in the North Santiam area looking for sites upon which to build a residential development of an estimated 25 homes for executives. They looked at tracts in Mill City and Gates. They appeared interested in a site near, and including the Canyon Park, in Mill City.

Al Bauer, manager of Consolidated Builders, Inc., and George Wolfe, an architect for the Kaiser interest, interviewed local businessmen and property owners in Mill City Monday, with the view of locating a site on which to build 25 or more permanent homes for executives connected with the dam construction.

They met J. C. Kimmel, president of the Mill City Chamber of Commerce, who with others helped locate owners of certain building sites.

Other officials of the company had been in Mill City Sunday and had their eyes on a level tract which turned out to be the site of Mill City grade school.

It was learned that R. A. Hoffman, an associate in the Kaiser company, had been named general superintendent of the dam project at a meeting of the allied firms in Seattle over the week end.

None of the officials wished to make any statement this week inasmuch as no word had been received at that time on official approval by Col. Theron Weaver, Pacific area army engineer, of the bid. It has been stated that the bid might be rejected as too low—it was \$9.5 millions below the U. S. estimate, but officials of Consolidated defended the bid on the grounds that in a single item their plans would effect a saving of \$2 million. Instead of a costly trestle from which to pour concrete into the forms of the dam, they have planned for a cable arrangement, upon which giant buckets will roll.

The report of the Army Engineers in its request for \$11,300,000 for the dam for 1949-50 contains the following proposed expenditures:

Purchase of additional lands for reservoir—\$557,000.

Miscellaneous hired labor construction and operation—\$228,000.

Continuation of reservoir clearing by contract—\$1,000,000.

Construction of dam and powerhouse, by contract—\$8,165,000.

Big Cliff Dam: Detailed project plans and construction plans and specifications—\$350,000; Site development, roads, clearing, diversion and clearing, diversion monon-moat to care of river—\$500,000; initiation of construction of dam and powerhouse—\$500,000.

### Red Cross Drive Gets Under Way

Marion County's 1949 American Red Cross fund campaign was launched this week, the overall objective for the county chapter being \$52,000.

Gates chairman is Mrs. Elmer Stewart. Mrs. Ed Byrkit is leading the drive in Detroit.

For Marion County the chairman is Wesley E. Stewart Jr., and Coburn Grabenhorst is co-chairman. Both are of Salem.

The community project of a blood program was the Red Cross as the organizing and coordinating agency. through this program, blood and all its derivatives will be supplied, free of charge to all in need of them.

For Mill City a chairman had not yet been chosen, but Mrs. Frank Blazek, president of the Firemen's Auxiliary, was to call a meeting this week on possible sponsorship of that organization of the Red Cross drive.

### RIDERS GET RODEO BID

The Santiam Riders received an invitation this week to participate in the second annual trail ride sponsored by the St. Paul Rodeo Assn. as a preliminary feature to its July 4 week end wild west show.

The trail ride will be Sunday, July 5, over a riverside route.