

The North Santiam's Mill City Enterprise

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Looking Up and Down the Canyon

By CHARLES WOLVERTON

While the rest of the world is waging a cold war that gets a degree warmer with every headline, here in the North Santiam Canyon we ought to reverse things to set an example.

The Canyon, like any other closely knit community, has the attributes of a family—we squabble, we fuss, we envy, we harass each other. It's just a sign that we all love each other, really.

A few months back, Idanha was growing at Detroit, and visa versa, over the relatives contributions of each to the new fire district there. They wanted me to get in the battle, and, as much as I like a fight, I chose to stay neutral.

The fight didn't amount to much. Anyway, Detroit helps put out Idanha's fires, and Idanha helps put out Detroit's, so peace withal, except with fire, the main enemy.

The standing feud between Gates and Mill City, I imagine that those who still harbor resentment have actually forgotten the original cause of the trouble, if there was a reason. But somehow, the rivalries of the past are disappearing now, as school representatives of the two communities work out the details of planning a union high school together.

Rivalries are good. They spur each town to greater achievement. And in the Canyon it's all in the family.

That's just the point. The wellbeing of one Canyon community reflects an amiable glow of health to all the North Santiam. It's almost as vital to Mill City, for instance, that Breitenbush Hot Springs is built as it is to that famous resort.

The current increase in the number of businesses in every town in the Canyon helps them all. A new industry in one town helps all the towns.

We're looking forward this summer to another community, Elkhorn, joining the Canyon—when and if the county comes through on its plans for a road across the ridge.

It's good to see one community try to surpass the other. Main thing to remember is that by geography we are one region. There's but one road in and out. We gotta get along.

From Philadelphia comes the following tidings inspired by the great hair crop now being raised by your editor:

Dear Editor: What is this talk about hair grower that really works. You've got my Pop all excited that maybe there's some truth in what you report. If it really works—for truth—please let my Pop know where he can get some. Your Credulous Public.

From the Editor: Dear Credulous Public: This formula of mine is so powerful that—

One day I accidentally stepped with my bare feet upon a drop of it. A few days later I thought I had a splinter in my foot. Instead, it was a wild hair.

I am sorry I cannot reveal the product. For I plan to start on my first moulton soon, starting a hair farm.

It's going to be a new experience, having street names to go by. Quite appropriately, the council picked the names of trees for most of the street designations. They sound beautiful—Alder, Broadway, Cedar, Douglas, Evergreen, Fir, Grove and Kingwood.

With such namer, the townsfolk are bound to have homes that come up in standard.

Correction — because of a typographical error the fine levied on John Timstead was reported as \$115. The fine was \$15. The Enterprise regrets the error.

KIN DIES IN HOSPITAL FIRE

Mrs. Maxwell who lost her life in the disastrous hospital fire in Effingham, Ill., was a grandmother of Mrs. Humphreys of Idanha.

GOLLIET BUYS HOME ON FORK

Ken Golliet, Mehama merchant, recently purchased a summer home in the Little North Fork region.

Access Road Hacked into Dam Area

Engineering work on the Detroit dam was progressing this week, and much preparatory road building and other preliminary construction was under way at the damsite.

An access road from the old highway to the base of the dam was completed, and two temporary sheds are being built.

Russell Hoffman, general superintendent for Consolidated Builders, the Henry Kaiser-led company building the dam, was at the damsite and the engineering office in Mill City all week.

The Byers Construction Co., subcontractors on clearing for CBI, was making progress in the access road area below the dam, and the contractor was able to get that work under way.

Here in Mill City, engineers are designing to be placed above the dam several hundred feet. It will be fabricated of steel in Portland.

Much surveying was under way as well. In the local general offices, Eldon Lents, office manager, Jack Lacey and other executives were on a full-time schedule interviewing the hosts of salesmen and job applicants who have poured into Mill City since the work began.

But officials said it would be a long time before any extensive hiring can be done.

Meanwhile, Joe McNealy, construction superintendent for CBI at its \$250,000 housing project here, was getting work under way at the housing site adjacent to the city park. About six of 12 big Euclid earth moving trucks were being unloaded at a siding. Plans of the new homes were complete, for the most part, and drawings of the tract, which will be laid out in a curved street, are expected by next week. Excavation and street work will begin as soon as the plans arrive.

Several home plans were already here. They are for large, ranch-type homes, with large living rooms, and fireplaces.

Wider Use Of Airport Due

State aeronautics officials were in Mill City Wednesday studying the the Davis Airport for possible commercial use. Byron Davis, owner, had made application for a commercial field status recently.

The officials reportedly were favorably impressed with the airstrip, a 2000 foot east-west strip, which has been extensively developed since it was started last fall on one of the few stretches of level land up the Canyon from Mill City.

Of late, Larry Kuechenberg, of the contracting firm building the North Santiam highway and a flier himself, assigned heavy road equipment to the strip and it was smoothed beautifully, Mr. Davis said. Mr. Kuechenberg contributed the machinery and labor.

By the end of the week the last remaining hazard, the power lines, will be taken down, and underground cable cut over at the east approach to the field. More and more fliers are using the strip. A brother of Lowell Stiffler, local merchant, has landed on the local field twice in the past week.

James Cooke Gets Navy Scholarship

James Cooke, who was chosen recently to be governor for a day, won another important honor Wednesday when he and two other Salem high school youths were given naval reserve officer scholarships.

Young Cooke is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Cooke of Mill City.

Stanford University is the choice of all three, and a four year course is included in the scholarship.

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OMENS OF PROGRESS

The upper Canyon area is keeping abreast of the times—no stopping the doughty citizens of Detroit and Idanha.

The newest improvement up there will be a genuine, air-tight, can-opener-proof hoosegow.

It will be built at the junction of Breitenbush road and Highway 222.

It's designed to spare Justice of the Peace Ed Vickers of the embarrassing predicament he got into last year. A culprit was given a choice of a fine or jail. It was chilly up there, so he chose jail. Only there wasn't none. Worse, the highway was blocked and he couldn't be transported.

Judge Vickers finally got him to Gates where county officers picked him up.

Colburn Heads Budget Unit

Jack Colburn was appointed chairman of the Mill City budget committee in a meeting of the council Wednesday night.

Named to serve with him are W. B. Shuey, George Ditter, and two councilmen, Arey Podrabsky and Carl Kelly.

The council also heard request from five local developers of home tracts for new additions to be admitted to the city. The areas included would presently add almost 100 people to the population of the town, and, as the tracts are being developed rapidly, will mean many hundred more by the end of the year.

Those seeking to include their property in Mill City are Frank Rada, Roy Beebe, George Thomas, Paul Johnke and Robert Swift.

In area, about 50 acres would be added to the city, or about 400 lots.

In response to requests by Mr. Rada and Vernon S. Toad, who sought to have their street surfaced, Mr. Kelly, after investigation, found that a heavy duty oil surface could be applied at a cost of 80 cents per square yard.

Mayor Harold Kliever said certain legal difficulties are being faced in getting through a special assessment program.

The first official map of the town, incorporated just two years ago, was presented to the council by G. C. McKinney, Salem civil engineer. A few revisions will be made before the map is ready for publication.

The council heard applications for beer licenses from George Ditter and Tony Ziebert, on the Linn County side, and Frank Blazek renewed an application he had made previously for the Marion County side.

Power Failure Closes Mills

The Idanha Lumber Co. planer crew was working a night shift in order to obtain power from the Idanha Power Co., while waiting repairs for the engine room.

Their work was suspended Wednesday evening when one of the generators at the power plant burned out. The power breakdown also halted the shingle mill operation. Paul Reynolds, manager, took the generator to Portland immediately for repairs, returning with a repaired one Sunday evening, and it was installed by Monday night. Part time work was resumed at the mill.

Sunrise Services to Mark Easter Observances Here

Easter will be observed here Sunday with special services in all the churches, and a sunrise service of all denominations will be held in the park at about 5 p. m.

The Rev. Hinkle of the Free Methodist Church will lead the early morning devotions.

Special Good Friday services will be held in the Presbyterian Church at 7:30 p. m. with the choir presenting "The Seven Last Words," under the direction of Mrs. Don Sheytha. Other members of the choir are Mrs. Robert Trask, Mrs. Carl Kelly, Mrs. Lee Ross, Mrs. Shields Remine and Mrs. Francis Merrill.

Property Sales Zoom

School Tax Vote Monday

Meetings will be held in all school districts in the area next Monday to vote on the proposition of increasing the 6 per cent tax limitation.

In Lyons and Mehama there will be a concurrent election on the consolidation of union high school district No. 4J, f Stynd and her dsres.

Charles Kelly, school board clerk, was given notice by Agnes Booth, Marion County school superintendent that ballots for the election were being sent him.

The Lyns consolidated district reported the following teacher assignments for the next term.

Mrs. Leora Stevens, principal and eighth grade teacher, Mrs. Worth, seventh; Mrs. Lafky, fifth; Mrs. Eva Kulken, third; Mrs. Hattie Skillings, second; and Mrs. Goldie Brown, first. Mrs. Poole will replace Mrs. Harlow for the fourth grade and Thomas Putman of Monmouth has been hired for the sixth grade.

Cycle Victim's Services Held

Funeral services were held in Weddle funeral parlors in Stayton Wednesday afternoon for James Eccleston, 19, of Gates, who was instantly killed Sunday when he was thrown from his motorcycle a mile west of Mill City.

The youth was returning from Kings Trading Post and his machine got out of control.

Young Eccleston had attended the Gates schools since coming here in 1939. He was one of the most popular boys in the high school, active in school affairs, president of the student body, a member of the basketball team and would have been graduated this year.

He had a leading role in the senior play, which was to have been given this month.

The student body was dismissed to attend the services. Burial was in the family plot in Wetzel cemetery near Seio.

Five of his schoolmates, Oliver Muise, Ed Keith Oliver, Daniel Romney, George Child and Wiley Muise, and a Mill City friend, Edwin Clark acted as pall bearers.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eccleston, a sister, Eileen and his grandmother, Mrs. Minnie Brotherton of Stayton.

The whole Gates community was shocked and grieved by the tragedy which deprived it of a well-liked and industrious youth.

A family party and dinner honoring the birthdays of Charles, Gail and Mary Jo Cruson was held Sunday afternoon at the Ed Cruson home. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cruson, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Cruson, Mary Jo and Buddy, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Mather and Penny of Salem and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Schaffer of Idanha. Glenn Ettinger underwent a minor operation in Stayton this week.

35 Foot Frontage Goes For \$2000; Lots Scarce

It was hard to keep apace with widespread real estate and building activity the past week. Up and down the Canyon property was changing hands more rapidly than ever recorded here.

In Mill City, the Presbyterian Church disposed of 35 feet of frontage to Floyd Fleetwood, who, the week before, had sold his grocery to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stewart of De Lake. Mr. Fleetwood is planning a three-unit business block with apartments on the second floor. Sale price of the lot was reported at about \$2000.

In Gates, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Millsap disposed of another tract, about two and one-half acres, to Paul Davis and Wilson Park, Salem. The two purchasers have announced plans for

Homes on Rise In Elkhorn

The whine of the saw and the beat of the hammer will soon shatter the peace and quiet of the Elkhorn Valley; sizeable building projects are about to swing into action.

At least six private homes are to be erected there this summer, as still more well-to-do Valley people are attracted to the resort area along the Little North Fork of the Santiam.

One, belonging to Clyde Everett, manager of the Oregon Flax and Textile Co., is nearly completed, and another, owned by Guy Hickok, manager of the First National Bank of Salem, is partly done. These houses front on the scenic Little North Fork and lie just south of the Elkhorn Guest Ranch.

A road turning left at Evans Creek leads to the site of another future home. This is to be erected by George Pettingill, Portland electrical contractor. He intends to build a beautiful residence with landscaped grounds; and, when he retires, it will be his permanent home. He expects to spend most of the summer there directing the building program.

In May, Claude Post, of the firm of Post and Viesko, Salem contractors, expects to start on his summer home. Another builder will be Ronald Hudkins of Hudkins and Son, real estate firm in Salem.

W. E. Klosterman of Los Angeles also owns a lot in this picturesque valley. He operates a chain of photograph studios on the coast, including Bishop's in Salem, and he is looking forward to building at Elkhorn soon.

Others purchasing summer homesites from Kenneth Randall of the Guest Ranch include R. Beutler of Beutler and Quistad, West Salem lumber concern; Wendell Webb, managing editor of the Oregon Statesman; Fred Klaus, owner of Pike's Ice Cream Shop; and Phil Snell, manager of Parrish Food Distributors. Their building plans have not been reported.

Hotel Must Go, State Orders

It looks as if an old Mill City landmark is about to pass on. Wednesday night an announcement was relayed to the city council that the state fire marshal's office had condemned the Mill City Hotel. The reasons were not made public.

The hotel, owned by Louie Rada and leased by P. D. Porter, has long been a landmark in the Canyon. It was a dormitory for the Hammond Lumber Co. employees when that firm ruled the roost around the Canyon until ten or more years ago.

The eventual loss of the hotel will put a crimp in the local housing situation, for many construction workers have been living there.

Thursday evening a candlelight is to be held at the Church of Christ at 7:30.

about 15 homes, which will be for sale.

Last week the Millsaps sold another tract to the C. J. Montag Construction Co. An eight-unit motel is already under construction there, as well as a large garage and shop to be used by the firm in connection with its contract for building the 230 kv Bonneville power line.

The Enterprise's Gates correspondent noted that unimproved land is more in demand than property with buildings.

Elsewhere in Gates, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Hammer of Salem have bought two and one-half lots from Glen Hennes, adjacent to the home he recently purchased from Elmer Cooper. The Hammers plan to build a home.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Haun sold a highway lot to Charles Rombeck and Anna Rombeck of Medford last week. This property was formerly part of the Klutke place.

The store building under construction by Norman Garrison in Gates is fast nearing completion. Mr. Garrison will operate a variety store with fountain and lunch counters in the new structure.

Jerry's Tavern is being painted and a fireplace installed inside.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Morrison have sold their trailer camp and tourist cabins, retaining only a site for a residence. The name of the purchaser was not announced.

Several other Gates transfers are in the process, and are expected to be consummated the coming week.

In Mill City Tony Ziebert bought about two acres on the highway from Frank Bass, near the Silver Saddle Service Station. Price was reported at \$2000.

Two large earth movers were being unloaded at a siding here Tuesday for Consolidated Builders, Inc. They will be used in grading and clearing the 25-home project of CBI on the site bought from the Santiam Lions Club and others. Joe McNealy, housing construction superintendent, said the architect's plans call for ranch type homes with an estimated cost of about \$9500 each, not including the land cost.

The CBI addition will be built on a curved street with each home having a long street frontage. They will be heated by oil furnaces with forced draft. Total cost of the development will be somewhat above the first estimate of \$250,000.

Meanwhile, there was developing a serious lack of residential lots in Mill City. There is not a lot left in the Shepherd addition, according to Mrs. Bertha Shepherd whose late husband developed the large tract. Most of the Swift addition, which was vacant land a year ago, has been sold about eight lots there, were transferred the past week. Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Jenkins have completed sales of eight lots in the Hilltop area. Except for scattered sites about town, few lots remain. There is an immediate need for more additions to Mill City.

Although extensive hiring of workers for the Detroit Dam will await the completion of current preparatory engineering, some CBI executives said that they were having difficulty carrying on urgent work because there were so few homes available for even the few men needed now.

Permits were granted to C. S. Morgan, Stayton, for a \$10,000 service station (he is a Richfield distributor); to Freres Lumber Co., Stayton, \$4500, for a lumber yard; Pederson & Hagen, \$4500 for a residence. The latter is the first of several planned on a tract owned by George Thomas.

The residence of Charles Wolverton, owned by J. G. Rand, was sold to Coville Realty Co. and part of the property will be used for an office.

W. R. Hutcheson and Richard Parker of Salem have purchased the property of Anne Dawes, on the highway and plan a two-unit store building and basement.

Throughout the week, many other real estate transfers were in the mak-