

# 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

Hamman Stage Line could quite profitably operate another bus, late at night from Salem to Mill City and other points up the Canyon. Much of the construction work is on a two- or three-shift basis. Week ends are particularly cut short for many who don't have cars, because of the comparatively early leaving time in the afternoon.

The new highway soon will mean much more bus travel via the North Santiam route through the Cascades.

All future Rose Queens should be tested for allergies. The current one had a bad case of the sniffles—rose fever.

I'm not an economist, but I'd like to know if there is any connection between the current slump in business throughout the country and the policy of the past few years of sending billions abroad.

The ostensible purpose of propping up certain governments with stacks of American dollars was to get Joe Stalin's goat and to halt the spread of the kind of government he likes.

After three or more years of such a policy, a count of Red noses (and I don't mean those that bloom from spirits) brings us a total of about 700,000,000 people. Before we set out to save the world from communism there were about 200,000,000 under its sway.

The past three years has not seen a federal budget of less than \$40,000,000,000 yearly. Roosevelt's biggest peacetime budget—which built Bonneville, Grand Coulee dams and other vast public works, never hit above ten billion in peacetime. The only way it can be figured is that we are spending—what with an enlarged military establishment—upwards of \$30 billion to stop the Reds. That ought to have bought a lot of anti-communism, but it hasn't.

What bothers me is that the United States, with the consent of the Democrats and Republicans, has really laded out the gravy to keep Themostocles Popopolis from turning Red, has dished out plenty of rice to a lot of Chang Changs for the same reason, they haven't spent a dime on me to keep me from waving a red flag or heaving a bomb at a capitalist. Heck, I'll stay non-communist, even divest myself of the pinkish hue of which I have been accused, if the government will give me a small fraction of what it has been passing out to the rest of the world to keep it from going red.

The business of keeping your editor from looking longingly at the Kremlin by paying him a substantial bonus has many precedents. We've been doing it for the past three years to the citizens of other countries. Another precedent could be derived from the good old days of the new deal—when they paid farmers for not raising wheat.

I'll pledge not to raise hell for a whole lot less.

A near disaster occurred at the Idanha Lumber Co. mill Friday. It started with a sneeze.

An employee let loose with a walloping ha-choo! He then was seen to paw frantically through the sawdust, then dash out of the mill and down to the conveyer. There he waited for a few moments, at last picking up what he'd lost.

You guessed it. 'Twas his uppers.

### NEW CAFE OPENED

Mrs. Les Mullen opened the doors of an attractive restaurant next to Les Mullen's tavern on the highway. The eating place was named Viv's Steak House.

The new establishment has a frontage of about 40 feet and is completely new in all respects. A modern kitchen has been installed.

### SCHOOL NOTICE EXPLAINED

Mrs. Alice Huber, Lyons school district clerk, explained today that notices calling for a school meeting Monday were based on standard time and that the meeting will begin at 9 p.m. DST.

## Looking for a Place to Live? Get a Tent

"Where are we going to live?" That question was being asked by hundreds of newcomers to the Canyon, now that school is out and wives and children are coming in to join their husbands employed on the Detroit Dam and related projects.

And the answer is: "There just aren't any houses."

Trailer camps appear to be the best immediate solution for many. Martin Hansen's trailer court in Mill City has grown from about five or six trailer occupants a month ago to at least 30 today. The Silver Saddle is filling up. Butler's camp in Gates is already a small city on wheels. And up in Detroit the same growth is evident.

What few local homes that have been vacant are now tenanted, some at triple previous rentals.

Many dam employees are buying lots and are planning to build.

Here and there, are tents pitched, and large families are roughing it.

The real housing crisis probably will not come, however, until next year, when Consolidated Builders' payroll will start climbing to its peak of 2500 or more.

Two college boys, out to work for the summer, looked vainly for a room and finally located one in Gates—at

\$40 per month for a hole in the wall. They said, "Huh uh!" and went out and bought a tent.

One CBI wife located what she had been told was a furnished apartment. The furnishings did not, however, include refrigeration, hot water, washing machine, and many other items normally expected at the high rental asked.

Local people, as well as newcomers, have been caught in the housing bind, when homes they were renting were sold. Their chances have been a bit better than others because they were better informed on vacancies.

Many workers and executive personnel are living as far away as Salem and commuting daily.

To outsiders, the best advice seems to be:

"Bring a trailer—or a tent."

## Dam Tunnel Job Will Start Soon

The Shea Construction Co. this week was on location at the Detroit Dam for its subcontract of digging a 1400 foot diversion tunnel for the North Santiam River.

Consolidated Builders, Inc. completed excavation work at the east portal of the shaft which will be 25 feet or more in diameter and will be cut through solid rock.

Other work the past week at the damsite included pouring of footings for the main office of the construction company.

About 350 are presently employed on the CBI pay roll, with over 100 at work or scheduled to be on sub-contracts.

### ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING WILL BE HELD MONDAY

An important school meeting will be held Monday evening to elect two directors and vote on the proposed budget for next year.

The terms of Ramon Roberts, chairman, and W. B. Shuey, who was appointed to fill the post vacated by Willis Potter, expire. One director is to be elected for a three year, and the other for a year's term.

A budget about \$10,000 above last year's also will be discussed.

### LYONS GETS SWITCHBOARD

A new switchboard has been installed in the Lyons telephone office, a 50-circuit board.

It is quite an improvement over the old board which has been in service ever since the telephone company was organized early in 1900.

The first service in Lyons was a three jack box at the Trask and Brotherton store, with only three lines. That was before the telephone office was established.

## Plans Advance For Highway Opening Fete

Edison Vickers, president of the Canyon Commercial Club of Idanha and Detroit, announced Friday that a meeting of heads of civic groups had decided on preliminary plans for the opening and dedication of the highway.

The meeting was held at the high school Thursday evening.

A ribbon will be stretched across the road at the Breitenbush bridge, where a caravan from eastern Oregon will meet a caravan from the valley. Plans are for a 45 minute dedication service, and Gov. Douglas McKay will be invited to participate as chief speaker. At the same time a Queen of the Santiam will be crowned. The queen will be chosen according to plans not yet completed.

Invitations have been sent to various groups in eastern Oregon and the valley. Also present will be prominent men from the Corps of Army Engineers and the Public Roads Administration.

On June 21, heads of Chambers of Commerce from many eastern and western Oregon cities will meet in Salem for further plans.

## Oregon Pulp's Mill Begins

In contrast with a general trend of slowing lumber production and mill closings, a brighter picture of a new lumber producer put in operation this week was good news for the Canyon.

It is the Oregon Pulp and Paper Co. Mill between Mill City and Gates, a plant which was moved from its Monument Peak location where it had been idle for over a year. The mill was set up in its new location under the direction of Tony Ziebert of Mill City.

Backed by a good supply of timber, the mill will produce about 25,000 board feet daily.

### BUSINESS CENSUS PLANNED

Enumeration of business establishments in the Linn County part of Mill City will begin next week, it was announced in Eugene by Olga A. Freeman, district supervisor of the Census Bureau.

Reports will be sought on 1948 business operations. Information sought will include sales volume, pay rolls, and employment.

### LOOKOUT STATIONS OPENED

S. T. Moore, district ranger, said this week that lookout stations at Stahlman peak and Kinney Ridge had been opened this week, and that eight more stations would be manned before early July.

## Writer Sees New Highway Transforming the Canyon

By JEAN ROBERTS

A word picture of the North Santiam Canyon, now transformed by a new highway, is given by our Elkhorn correspondent.

Where once was a narrow, winding gravel road of hairpin turns and treacherous curves, there is now a new hard surfaced highway.

Although not entirely finished, the new highway from Gates to Detroit is so much improved, as to be nothing short of a miracle.

Tons of solid rock have been blasted along the North Fork of the Santiam for the highway right-of-way, which at first follows the bank of this sparkling river, then gradually climbs higher and higher to the crest of the new Detroit Dam, now under construction.

At the site of Big Cliff Dam, rocks, trees and stumps have been cleared to make room for construction. A huge cliff of solid rock faces the road far across the river while just above this, in the river, can be seen "Big Drift," a solid mass of shining white logs that have drifted down, a tangle of huge timber jammed into a narrow gorge.

High above the highway is the power line right-of-way, looking for all the world as though a mighty reaper had mowed a swath through the forest; up and down, crossing mountains so steep as to be nearly impassable, yet maintaining a straight line.

The level road stretches ahead still gradually climbing, cement walls supporting the lower side in places where the mountains were too steep to provide a road bed.

At the main damsite, huge floodlights skirt the road, heavy equipment, huge D-8 cats and enormous rock trucks, stand in neat yellow rows. Above these drifts the smoke of clearing projects which are keeping pace with dam construction.

Above the damsite a huge diversion tunnel is about to be drilled through solid rock; through this the river must flow while the dam is being built.

As yet incomplete, and with huge obstacles still to be overcome, the resurged highway carved out of rock and mountain, stands as a monument to an achievement of men and machines.

## Rapist of Teenager Given 10 Year Term

## C. of C. Will Sponsor Air Hop July 17

The Mill City Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the breakfast hop July 17 at Davis Airport here, when about 300 fliers and passengers will descend on the Canyon.

A barbecue has been planned to feed the visitors.

Lowell Stiffler, chairman of the committee, told the chamber of the program for the day. The committee met at the Enterprise office Wednesday evening. Present were Byron Davis, Ted Galbraith, owner and manager of the field; Harold Kiewer, mayor; and J. C. Kimmel, president of chamber.

Local fliers got a preview of what their July 17 breakfast hop here will be by attending one in Redmond Sunday. Over 1000 airmen convened at the Redmond airport, and the skies were filled with planes.

Five local planes took off here early Sunday morning, along with two from Silverton and one from Salem. Byron Davis reached the field across the Cascades in 50 minutes.

A big feature of the breakfast hop which will bring hundreds of planes here from all over the Northwest, is an air circus. Visiting airmen will perform a series of stunts and manoeuvres. A local student flier, Glen Roberts, is scheduled to make a parachute jump.

One of the most interesting attractions will be two helicopters from the Army Airforce. They will be the first ever seen in the Canyon.

Mr. Davis and Ted Galbraith, manager of the field, are studying out the problem of feeding the hundreds of fliers and their passengers. A big barbecue has been decided upon, but the sponsorship of it has not been determined. The affair will come up for discussion at this week's Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Local fliers and passengers were Elmer Moore, Don Walker, Byron Davis, Lloyd Hoeye, Glen Roberts, Ted Galbraith, Virginia Galbraith Wayne Kerr, John Jackson Kenneth Chance, Ben Bodeker and Buddy Thomas, Ted Finley and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Selman of Silverton and Elmer Thomas of Salem joined the flight here.

## Council OK's 1950 Budget

COUNCIL' adR t

The City Council last Wednesday approved a proposed budget of \$15,246 for the fiscal year beginning in July.

Mayor Harold Kiewer said the city tax would not exceed the six per cent limitation.

Other action by the council: An application for a bet license from Oliver Farmen was tabled indefinitely.

A plat of Evergreen St., as submitted by G. C. McKinney, civil engineer, of Salem, was approved. (A new survey had been required because of faulty original surveying.)

The council heard a report that the state highway commission was looking into the problem of drainage near the Silver Saddle station.

### X-RAYMOBILE SERVES 410 IN UPPER CANYON STOP

A total of 410 persons took advantage of the chest X-raymobile when the unit came to the upper Canyon June 13.

Local women assisting the unit included Mrs. Vern Alvin, Mrs. Ray Johnson, Mrs. Jack Haseman, Mrs. William Johnston, Mrs. Ed Debolt, Mrs. Gordon Skidmore, Mrs. H. H. Storey, Mrs. Eli Bangs, Mrs. Earl Parker and Miss Pat Wright.

## Construction Worker, 27 Pleads Guilty

Swift justice was dealt out to Eddie Snell, 27, confessed rapist of a teenage Canyon girl. He was sentenced to ten years in prison Wednesday in circuit court in Salem.

Snell altered his original plea of not guilty to guilty before the trial started.

The girl was criminally attacked May 1 when Snell was returning her to her home from a visit above Niagara. He tried to intimidate her to keep her from telling her parents, but she revealed what had happened to them upon arriving home. The next day she identified Snell in the presence of officers.

Snell was a highway construction worker, is married and has two children.

## New Building Adds 80 Feet Store Frontage

The first completed business building of the current construction boom here was ready for inspection this week here. It was a two-story business block built by C. A. Booth for C. E. Mason, on Broadway.

The new structure, with a frontage of 80 feet, is of concrete block construction. The exterior is trimmed with green. The interior is white, and is lit with fluorescent fixtures.

The building was finished in less than a month.

Landscaping in the form of shrubbery was added as an extra touch. George Manolis, Salem and Silverton restaurateur, began construction of a large drive-in cafe between Mill City and Gates.

Footings for a 40 by 60 foot building, to be constructed of concrete blocks, were poured late last week. The work has been contracted by the Larsen Construction Co. of Silverton.

Rapid progress was being made on the Hilltop General Store's new building. The outside walls and roof are finished, and chief work remaining is plastering and glazing. Albert Toman, proprietor, said he expected to start moving into the new place in mid-July.

Mill City's new grade school building is going ahead rapidly toward completion. All walls are up, most of the roof has been placed and part of the exterior has been finished in a gleaming white. The work is under the direction of the Adams Construction Co. of Stayton.

With arrival of millwork, the subdivision of 18 homes of the Consolidated Builders, Inc., is rapidly nearing completion. Mountain States Power Co. was placing a large water main to serve the area.

The Presbyterian Church was making plans to move the manse to a different location, following sale of frontage for business purposes of the lot on which it stands.

Pederson and Hagen, Salem contractors, were at work on their fourth residence in the locality. They began one in Fox Valley last week.

Both the new Freres Lumber Co. building and the service station on the highway were almost ready for occupancy this week.

### RAGSDALE TO MANAGE STORE

Earl Ragsdale took over the management of the local Porter & Lau appliance store Wednesday. Harold Kiewer, who has been in charge of the branch for the past few months, resigned to set up a wholesale meat business.

Mr. Ragsdale is city recorder. Mr. Kiewer is mayor.