

# 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

There is such a thing as being too right about a question. I'm thinking about the campaign for a Columbia Valley Authority.

I'm reminded of a time in college, back in the middlewest. It was a decidedly straitlaced institution. My brother, who was studying for the ministry, found its rigid mores not at all galling—in fact, he was entirely in agreement with the whole regimen, which included, as my memory serves me, restrictions on dates but two nights a week: till 7:30 on Wednesday and 8 on Saturday. To smoke was to risk the fires of perdition, and there wasn't even a rule against drinking, because the prexy didn't think, apparently, that a student of that college would ever do such a sinful thing.

To such no doubt helpful regulations I was a rebel. It didn't matter that they were for my own moral welfare: I just wouldn't be regulated.

So my brother, in full sincerity, took the matter to the dean—a little, long-faced character who fairly oozed piety, and said that he thought his brother—meaning me—ought to be expelled because "he is out of harmony with the institution." Unknown to me, there must have been a sense of humor lurking behind the solemn face of the dean. He let me stay.

I feel the same way about the advocates of CVA. Like my brother when he wanted to have me purged from the college, they are right. A CVA, if patterned after the great Tennessee Valley Authority, is right, and even its opponents are willing to grant that TVA has lifted up the South.

The argument, too, that the power generated by the dams, paid for by the people, should be the people's, is sound enough. In respect to principle they are on firm ground.

But the mistake of advancing the idea of a CVA has not been comprehended by its proponents.

Just suppose that the campaign for CVA were successful. What would happen?

At present conservative elements in the Northwest are for the power developments of dams and, though less enthusiastically, even the Bonneville transmission lines. The weight of conservative opinion regionally has influenced conservative opinion nationally to the extent that big sums for dam construction have not been denied.

Add to these conservative forces the liberals who are for public power anyway, and you have a big majority of opinion for power dam construction.

But once you interject a CVA into the picture—without a Franklin Roosevelt to glorify the program and a hard core of liberals in Congress to defend it—and every appropriation for a power dam will get a tag of "socialism." In solemn basso profundo, the old guard will thunder "regimentation." The shrill tenor of the rabble rouser will scream "communism." And in all the clamor the great projects now under way or to be started soon will slow down or be halted. The old red herring can stop progress like a red flag halts traffic.

Let's get the dams built. Kilowatts have no politics. When they are built there will be time enough to decide the issue of CVA.

Right now the Northwest needs to generate a lot of power and not a powerful lot of tightness.

## HONESTY WINS PLAUDITS FOR GATES WOMAN

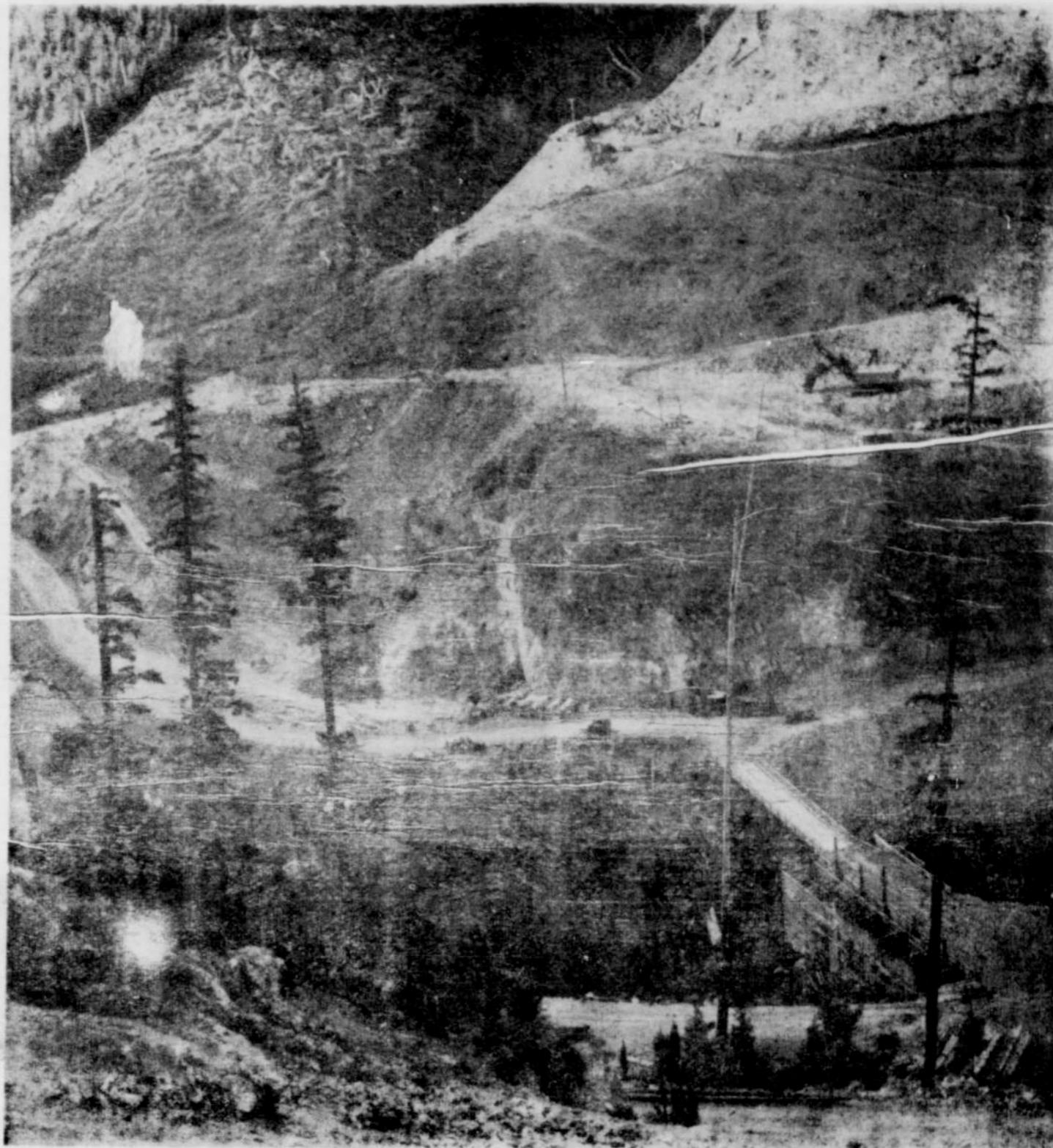
A Gates woman's honesty made the headlines in Chicago recently.

Mrs. Hollis Turnidge, attending a music convention there, where her daughter, Carolyn performed, found a wallet in the Congress Hotel. It contained \$1200. Mrs. Turnidge reported the find to the hotel, and the report was broadcast. The owner had not yet missed the wallet.

At several banquets there, Mrs. Turnidge had to take a bow as "the honest woman from Oregon." Miss Turnidge won a cash prize in a contest, placing second. Mrs. Turnidge's reward was \$20.

Mrs. Helen Kelley of Jefferson accompanied them to the convention.

## Pre-Concrete Work Advances at Detroit Dam Site



DETROIT, Aug. 27—This panoramic view at the Detroit dam-site was taken at the upstream construction bridge and shows the south bank of the Santiam river. Near the river bank (middle of the picture) may be seen the upstream portal to the diversion tunnel. The winding roads shown at the top of the picture are used by trucks and equipment working on the excavation site high on the mountain side. In foreground of the picture is shown the old Detroit highway. The photographer stood on the new highway to snap the photo. (Statesman photo).

## Dam Tunnel To Be Cut Through by Friday Work Starts on \$21,000 Station; Bank Progresses

Workmen on the diversion tunnel for the North Santiam River at the Detroit Dam were expected Thursday to break through and join the two bores from east and west sometime later in the evening or early Friday.

If they do—and no obstacles had appeared to prevent it today—last week's estimate by Consolidated Builders, Inc., engineers, has been accurate practically to the hour. The CBI guessed Friday as the time when the two holes of the 1400 foot tunnel would be connected.

Within about three weeks the river will be diverted by a coffer dam at the east portal of the tunnel into the 25-foot diameter passageway, to enable work to progress on the dam location.

A breath-taking network of roads has been cut up the steep south face of the damsite. Work now is on a round-the-clock basis, and the entire work area is brilliantly lighted at night so that virtually the same kind of projects can be carried on as in the daytime.

The engineering office, now located in the Fire Hall in Mill City, will be moved to the new office building at the damsite this week end. Russell Hoffman, general superintendent, already has transferred his desk there. The general office now in Mill City will be moved to the new building next week.

The first generator for the Detroit dam is to be completely tested and ready for commercial operation by Feb. 1, 1953, and the second one by

the following July 1.

Those are the terms of the contract of Westinghouse Electric Corp. of E. Pittsburgh, Pa., with the Corps of Army Engineers. The Westinghouse firm was apparently low bidder on two 55,555-kva alternating current generators and appurtenances. Bid was \$2,094,979, said to be 20 per cent above the current price. At time of delivery, the cost is not to exceed this price, but savings will be allowed the government not in excess of 220 per cent.

Other bidders were: Allis Chalmers Manufacturing Co., Milwaukee, Wis., \$2,130,490; and General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y., \$2,164,537.

Detour Dam will be the fourth unit of the Willamet Project to be completed by the Army Engineers. Cottage Grove dam on the Coast Fork and Fern Ridge dam on the Long Tom River have been in operation since their completion in 1942. Dorena dam on the Row River will be finished this year.

Detour Dam will have a rated capacity of 1000,000 kilowatts, and Big Cliff re-regulating reservoir downstream 2 1/2 miles will produce 30,000.

## GETTING WELL

Mrs. M. J. Chance, who recently underwent surgery at Albany General Hospital, is reported recovering.

## STATE POLICE POST IN IDANHA

Bob Steele, state patrolman, has been stationed in Idanha and will operate from headquarters at his home.

Work has started on a \$21,000 service station on Highway 232 by the Standard Oil Co.

A tin building there has been torn down, and foundation work and installation of big tanks already is in progress.

Property for the station, on Santiam Blvd., was purchased from Dave Reid but work was delayed until a construction firm that was using the old building had vacated.

L. A. Knowles of Lebanon is almost ready to move equipment into a new garage building on First St. near Broadway. Paving of the front approach was completed last week, a concrete floor was installed and further masonry work done.

Mr. Knowles will specialize in the repair of damaged vehicles.

Next door, with most of the plumbing work done, heavy equipment for a self-service laundry was being installed. Openings for both places are planned for early this month.

Work on the Mill City State Bank is going ahead rapidly, now that the basic renovation has been done. A big steel vault door arrived this week and was being put into place. Concrete work on the vault has been completed.

The balcony will have asdwmmmp. The bank will have a large balcony office, and part of it will house the heating system.

Window frames were being installed this week. The exterior will be stuccoed.

A restaurant is being built at Niagara.



SCENE at the Hilltop Store here last Saturday at its grand opening an event that attracted hundreds. In about the center of the picture is Albert Toman, proprietor. Just to the left nearer the window is Mrs. Mary Toman, proprietors of the store.

## Lions OK Park Gift To City

The directors of the Lions Club here voted late Thursday afternoon to deed their park to Mill City. Final decision on the transfer now awaits the city council.

Decision to give up the park was largely the result of a projected paving program which included the park frontage. Carl Kelly, president of the organization, announced the decision.

The agreement makes possible a complete new paved street on Evergreen, from First St. to the city limits, about six blocks.

Property owners agreed, the Mill City school district approved the plan and Consolidated Builders, Inc. were going ahead anyway on their frontage.

CBI also agreed to pay the cost of paving in front of the park, but was unable, because of income tax provisions, to undertake it except for a public municipality or a charitable institution.

Many members had favored deeding the park to the city even before the paving question came up.

Throughout town a paving crew directed by Police Chief King is repairing streets long needing it but neglected because the state highway commission failed to appear with a crew at an agreed date in early August.

## Opening Date For School Delayed Week

School will get under way here on Monday, Sept. 12, a week later than the previously announced date, due to delays in completing the new grade school building.

Registration of all new high and grade school students, including first graders, will be held at the school buildings Friday, Sept. 9.

The announcements were made by Vernon S. Todd, superintendent, and Henry R. Bayless, principal of the high school.

Registration hours are from 9 a.m. to 12.

The Marion County Department of Health will be on hand at the school for physical examinations for first graders.

Donald Sheythe, board member, of the Mill City district, said he met with members of the Elkhorn community Thursday, and plans for consolidation of that district into this one were discussed. Mr. Sheythe said that immediate consolidation was unlikely because the Little North Fork district has hired a teacher for this year, but he held out the hope that consolidation would be taken up during the year.

Landscaping work is progressing at the new school, with most of the earthmoving already done. Further leveling, and planting of grass seed are the next jobs.

The Marion County school superintendent's office this week advised all parents of school age children to prepare children to enter school on the opening day this September.

The compulsory education law, the office explained, states that every parent or guardian is held responsible for and required to send all children under their control to school regularly.

Parents having any questions on the law are advised to see the county office or phone Salem 3-6783.

## CITY TO BRIGHTEN UP WITH MERCURY LIGHT

Mercury vapor lights will be installed in most of the downtown section this week and by the Mountain States Power Co.

Ten of the lights, similar to those in Silverton, will be placed on First St., Broadway, Santiam Blvd., and the bridge across the North Santiam will be brightly illuminated for the first time.