

Looking Up and Down the Canyon

By CHARLES WOLVERTON

Sometimes I believe we've been approaching the problem of getting an adequate highway from Mill City into the Valley from entirely the wrong direction. We have worked with other town's chambers of commerce, we have sent resolutions, we have exerted the pressure we could muster—to little avail.

The time has come to examine the causes of our repeated failures. A glance in retrospect at last week's meeting with the highway commission and its attitude places one sure fact before all who witnessed it or read the reports in the papers.

It is the attitude that appears to me to weigh heavily, in the highway commission's brusque treatment of the petitioners. It was the attitude of men who considered themselves so strongly entrenched in their jobs that they could do with the people's money what they saw fit, and those who appeared before the three old men were merely tolerated out of deference to traditional forms of conducting governmental business.

Now, if I have properly and fairly gauged the demeanor of the three men on the commission—and there are others who remarked about the same thing—a serious situation confronts not only us in the North Santiam Canyon but the state as a whole.

For, when a party in power in a state has reached the degree of self-satisfaction that its representatives are not loath to show, then the people had ought to take alarm at the situation.

The Republican Party has been in the driver's seat for a good many years now. The highway program, for one, is wholly that party's responsibility. It controls the legislature that appropriates the funds, and the present and former governors have administered the projects.

And Oregon today, despite the fact that it has enjoyed tremendous federal subsidy, has unquestionably the worst highways in the west.

I'd like to see the question of the North Santiam highway approached politically. Perhaps, if the Republican administration cannot see the advantage of adding hundreds of miles of first rate road routes by merely finishing the 30 or so miles from Mill City into the Valley, perhaps the Democrats could.

This is an independent newspaper. I'd advocate the election of a technocrat if I thought he'd benefit this Canyon.

So, let's query the currently mentioned candidates for governor on the subject. Let's see what they say to our request.

This paper will be on the desks of State Senator Richard Neuberger, August Flegel and the present governor, Douglas McKay. All three are requested, in the name of the people of the Canyon and the people east of the mountains to state now what they would do about our request for immediate completion of the North Santiam highway, if they were governor.

Gentlemen, there are a good many tens of thousands of people who will be interested in your replies.

Some folks never learn—including statesmen. The general tenor of official U. S. comment after it was discovered that USSR had had the atomic bomb since 1947 was:

"Who's afraid? We got more of 'em."

As a humble citizen I'm greatly encouraged by the resolute answer of our leading politicians. It will be a comfort to me to know, when the cold war warms up and Uncle Joe drops one of his atomic messages hereabouts, that over in Koppelvichograd, Siberia, an American bomb of even greater power had the Ruskis hanging from the trees.

In the year 1955, as I scratch the atomic rash on my atomic—the result of beta and gamma rays which still are haunting the atmosphere, it will not cure me but at least will give me surcease to know that Ivan of Koppelvichograd has a worse case of atomic hives.

Just think of the glorious victory we will enjoy. We'll end up the war with one bomb and no Russians left over—while there will be at least a dozen Americans.

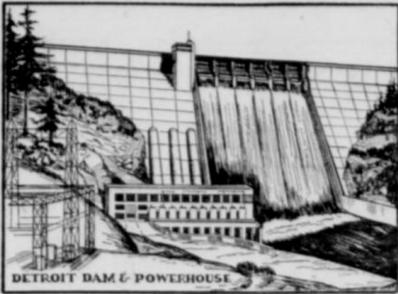
CHET SEZ: After all is said and done, more is said than done.

Sandwich spread is what people get from eating between meals.

—From the Canyon Castle, Mongold

LAST LOGGING TRAIN TUESDAY

Tuesday night was the last run of the logging trains to Mill City. There is now one local freight train daily.



Deer Hunters Await Big Day On Saturday

Deer hunters already were on their way to eastern Oregon to be ready for the opening of the season Saturday. And many local sportsmen had picked out spots around the Canyon for a chance on a buck.

C. A. Lockwood, Oregon game director, said that about 200,000 hunters were expected to go afield this year in Oregon. Newcomers to the Canyon, and the veteran deer hunters here, are expected to be on their way by the hundreds this week end.

Lockwood, in a general instruction to hunters, said "the very numbers who will hunt place a heavy responsibility on each hunter... and one that must be assumed by all."

Lockwood stressed:

1. Observance of game laws,
2. Caution as to fires.

3. "Better that we never get our buck than to destroy a human life."

The game director pointed out that "one cigaret butt flipped away can mean hundreds of starving deer" if a brush fire is the result.

Gardeners Sweep Grange Prizes

The Mill City Garden Club won the grand sweepstakes award at the Santiam Valley Grange festival Saturday as the organization with the most number of prizes.

The club won seven first prizes, four second prizes and three third prizes.

Mrs. Gladys Mason won two firsts, the marigold and lady finger, and the aster and white bouque arrangements and second in mixed color aster.

Mrs. Curtis Cline won three firsts—fuchsia plant, and rose and marigold arrangements.

Mrs. Fern Shuey was second with a begonia arrangement; Mrs. Arthur Kerr, first with a gladioli arrangement; Mrs. W. J. Robinson third for asters.

Begonias were chosen as the 1950 project of the club at its meeting Sept. 22. Al Clark of D'Vista Gardens will advise the club and Mrs. Cline will raise the plants, later to be distributed to club members.

On Oct. 27, Mrs. W. B. Olmstead will discuss bulbs and their care at the regular meeting, to be held at the Albert Toman home. Preceding the meeting there will be an exchange of flower bulbs among those present.

Held in Shooting

Richard James Reed, Detroit, was jailed Saturday morning in Salem at the county jail on a charge of assault with intent to kill following an altercation intermixed with gunplay in a Detroit cabin.

Warren Boscolin, Detroit, was shot through the hips in the Reed cabins there. Boscolin was taken to General Hospital in Salem, and his injuries were pronounced as not serious.

State Patrolman Bob Steele made the arrest.

Boy Scouts Plan To Reorganize

A new plan for Boy Scouts call for an older or senior group of boys beginning at the age of 14 years and older. Such groups were being organized all over the country the first of September.

The Mill City group had their first meeting in the high school recreation room Monday under the leadership of Warner Hampton.

The boys elected the following officers and they were sworn in to their respective offices:

- Pres. Vernon Christenson
Vice Pres. Joe Stodola
Sec'y: Herbert Hampton
Treas.: Dickey Flicker
Sargeant of arms: Philip Goble
Ass't. Sar. of arms: Not chosen

The next meeting will be Monday evening at the same meeting place.

Remodeling Of Bank Nears Completion

A crew of plasterers did quick work on stuccoing the exterior of the new bank building, and considerable progress was made on the interior.

The quarters for the jewelry store were almost ready for occupancy, and the furniture store space, both in the bank building, was nearing completion.

In the bank interior, beautiful panels of birch were being installed as wainscoting, and electrical work and tileboard ceiling were completed.

The exterior will be surfaced in white.

Owners of the Dawes building said that structure will be given a coat of paint soon.

Mr. Johnston, Salem builder, has begun the construction of two new homes in the Swift addition. The first for which foundation already has been laid, is a two-bedroom home and the second will have three bedrooms.

Two large ranch-type pumice block homes off Evergreen across from the CBI addition are nearing completion. They are being built for the families of Lee and Lemke, logging contractors, who have acquired a large stand of timber in the upper Canyon area.

Work will begin soon on construction of a frozen food locker business by Bill Hirte, Gates, on the site of Hilltop store's former warehouse.

Most of the framework has been completed on the new Standard Oil station on Santiam Blvd. Estimated cost is \$21,000.

Joe McNeely, construction superintendent for Consolidated Builders, Inc said a large play area would be landscaped in the middle of the CBI addition.

INJURED WORKER BETTER

Clyde Bressler is progressing satisfactorily at Salem Memorial Hospital where he was rushed last Tuesday morning with a compound fracture of the right leg and a broken ankle. He was injured while working for the Mt. Jefferson Lumber Co., repairing the carriage.

THE MILL CITY ENTERPRISE

VOLUME V, NUMBER 39 MILL CITY, OREGON, THURSDAY, SEPT.

Serving
LYONS, MEHAMA
ELKHORN, MILL CITY
GATES, MONGOLD
DETROIT, IDANHA

5 CENTS A COPY

CBI Ready to Divert River Into Tunnel

Changing Wind, Rain Abate Forest Blazes

Rain and high humidity beginning Tuesday held in check many fires in the forest area in and around the Canyon — fires that had gotten out of control in some places.

A heavy blanket of smoke laid over this region, most of them the result of slashing fires which got out of control when the wind abruptly shifted Monday to the east with a searing low humidity, continuing until late Tuesday afternoon.

Along the Little North Fork to the Elkhorn area, a forest fire raged out of control in several places, and several stands of timber were briefly threatened.

Slashing fires set by the Ercil Wilson Logging Co. and Freres-Frank Logging Co. several days ago were fanned into an uncontrollable blaze for awhile by the east wind.

In the Elkhorn area, above Randall's Guest Ranch, fire had broken out Monday into the green timber, but a crew of men working with fire pumps and axes—despite an inadequate water supply, had brought the fires under control Monday afternoon.

However, early Monday morning, reports were that the blaze again was out of bounds and had worked its way into a large stand of timber.

Shifting winds and rain later the same day helped halt the fires.

Fire was also creeping upward along the Little Sinker, for a time threatening a large stand of O & C timber above. Fire fighters were unable to continue because of darkness Monday night.

Halfway between Mehama and Elk-

horn, Freres-Frank's slashing fire burned fiercely Monday, and on the old Freres logging a blaze of unexplained origin burned for awhile.

Two miles from Mehama a slashing set behind the Oakdale school got away and swept up over the hill, burning a small stand of timber.

Firefighters left Mehama, Lyons, Mill City and other Canyon towns at daybreak Tuesday for the Elkhorn region again to attempt to bring the fires under control.

On McCully Mountain, men worked Monday until after midnight to save a yarder and loading donkeys and other logging equipment of the Wilson Logging Co.

However, this portion of Oregon's forests was spared the serious fires that struck the coastal area at the same time. There was no general recruitment of men to fight the fires, although forest rangers in the Canyon were getting ready to call for volunteers.

Effects of clearing fires in the Detroit Dam reservoir area were noted here, and nearby mountains such as Monument Peak were obscured by the smoke for several days.

The Chris McDonald home in Mehama was spared from fire by neighbors who quickly extinguished brush fires started apparently from a short circuit of power lines.

No damage was done.

The dry spell caused the Mill City fire department to be called out two times—once to Mehama where a cottage owned by the Bellin's caught fire and burned to the ground, with the belongings of Mr. and Mrs. Cox, tenants, completely lost; and to the BeeBe place here for a minor blaze.

Woman Hurt In Bridge Fall Council Hires 2d Patrolman

Mrs. E. A. Moravec, 26, of Oregon City, was seriously injured Sunday in a 30 foot fall when a timber on the old suspension bridge here gave way.

The bridge is used by pedestrians. Mrs. Moravec fell to the rocks below. She broke her left arm in six places, and suffered cuts on the head and face requiring stitches, and suffered from loss of blood.

Chief of Police King directed her removal and brought her to the hospital in Salem in his car.

Mrs. Moravec is a daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Moravec and had come for a birthday celebration in honor of her and her mother-in-law. Before returning they went to the bridge to see the salmon when the accident occurred.

The city council Wednesday night approved the hiring of an additional patrolman for Mill City.

Employed was Ray Rich, 29, Woodburn, war veteran and former member of the military police. Mr. Rich will assume his duties assisting Chief of Police J. T. King the first of the month.

Mr. Rich is married, and he and his wife will reside here.

Other council action: Further street grading and repair was approved.

A catch basin near the corner of First and Evergreen was approved. Mayor Harold Kiewer said legal work on the city charter is virtually completed, and would be ready by the next council meeting, at which time date for a charter election probably will be set.

More street signs have arrived and will be installed soon.

IDANHA MILL LOW BIDDER ON BREITENBUSH TIMBER

Timber cut and decked along the Breitenbush road was sold to the Harvey Lumber Co. of Idanha last week by the Willamette National forest. The Idanha mill submitted the only bid of \$4122.50, the appraised price, for 250,000 board feet, mostly Douglas fir.

NOTICE

There will be a covered dish dinner Saturday evening at 6:30 p. m. in the recreation room of the Presbyterian church. Afterwards there will be a reception for Dr. and Mrs. David James Ferguson. Everybody is invited.

Santiam Channel To Shift

The North Santiam River will dis-appear from its customary course for over a quarter of a mile this week end, when its flow will be directed into a tunnel hacked through the mountain at the site of the Detroit Dam 12 miles east of here.

Diversion of the stream will take place when a coffer dam at Campbell Creek backs up the river to the level of the tunnel. Diversion of the water will give Consolidated Builders, Inc., main contractors, a dry land work site at the dam's location to cut out the keyways—a deep excavation on the sides and base of the dam—and eventually to start on construction of the concrete works.

Jack Murray, CBI public relations executive, reported considerable progress on the work this week.

Excavations for the south access road were nearly complete. Similar preparatory work on the north cableways was estimated at 90 per cent of completion.

On early schedule under way are excavations for the mixing plant, on the Linn County side; the south cableways and other roads.

The coffer dam is 30 per cent of completion, and the retaining wall on the west end of the diversion tunnel below the damsite.

Mr. Murray said a heavy construction schedule will be maintained in the fall and winter months. To be built are the cableways, the aggregate plant, the mixing, cement, cooling installations, a carpenter shop and warehouse. Completed are the machine shop, the offices, the tire repair shop, the electrical shop, first aid station and minor structures.

Mr. Murray estimated current employment at 525.

Mr. Murray said CBI had been inconvenienced by reports in certain newspapers of an increase planned in hiring. He said reports of that kind were not true and were unauthorized, and that his company had been inconvenienced by a rush of job-seekers.

Basin Land Options Taken

Six additional options for the purchase of property within the Detroit Dam reservoir area on the North Santiam River have been accepted by the Portland district, Corps of Engineers, Lt. Col. D. A. Elliget, acting district engineer, said Wednesday.

The options included one for 57 acres with Clarence Mason and another for 10 acres with George J. Reiser. Also included in the options were a half acre with Alda Smith and lot owned by J. Stallman, Waldo Nettleton and J. C. Fowler.

The Portland district real estate division will continue to accept options on land within the reservoir as rapidly as possible until all necessary property has been acquired for the project. Col. Elliget said.

Detroit Dam is one of the major units in the Willamette Valley flood control project of the Corps of Engineers. Also included is Big Cliff, a re-regulating reservoir two and one-half miles downstream.

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Tomstock are the parents of a girl, born September 14 in Salem.

Epps Reported as Sen. Thompson's Stand-in



Orval Thompson

A Portland columnist this week reported that Dave Epps, Sweet Home and Mill City furniture merchant, is the party's choice for the state senatorial nomination if Sen. Orval Thompson declines another term.

The report appeared in Moyes' column in the Oregonian.

Mr. Thompson has been previously reported as not interested in returning to the state senate, and from time to time his name has been mentioned for governor.

Mr. Epps was his party's choice for governor of state in 1946.

Mr. Epps, former publisher of The Enterprise, began in the furniture business here about two and a half years ago and his business expanded to include a larger Sweet Home store about a year ago.

Sen. Thompson is a lawyer in Albany.



Dave Epps