

Slide Halts Traffic Over Highway 222

Thousands of tons of loose rock and dirt avalanched upon the North Santiam highway east of the Army Engineers office Monday and halted through traffic for more than 24 hours.

The slide area was not completely cleared away by Wednesday, and most of Tuesday Army Engineers personnel had to walk around the slide area to cars waiting on the other side.

Work of clearing the huge mound of rock and dirt was begun by the Bureau of Public Roads late Monday. No one was injured as big boulders tumbled down on the road.

The entire stretch of about one-fourth mile beginning at the site of the rock crusher on the north side of the highway has been a trouble zone since construction of the road began, and ever since. The Kuckenberg Construction Co., main contractors on the road, terraced the bluff above the highway to catch part of the rock. But the slides have continued.

Several weeks ago the crusher was buried by an avalanche of rock and dirt when an explosive charge jarred loose the whole side of the hill. The gravel plant was put out of commission for a week or more.

Road men predict that the stretch will be a source of trouble for many years.

'Wolves Facing Big Cage Schedule

Curtain-raiser in a heavy basketball schedule for the Mill City high school Timberwolves will be the annual Marion County jamboree in Salem Saturday night. The school bus and many carloads of rooters will make the trip.

The Mill City high school's Timberwolves will open their home basketball season December 6, Tuesday, with Scio here. Both the "A" and "B" squads will play. Although this is a non-league clash, it is nevertheless an important game for the Wolves.

The Wolves officially open their 1949-50 cage season Friday night with a game with Chemawa on the Indians floor.

Season tickets already are on sale for at least ten home games. Five of them are Marion county B League tilts.

The schedule:

December 6, Scio; December 10, Salem Bible Academy; December 13, Sublimity; December 23, Jefferson; January 3, Chemawa; January 6, Turner; January 10, Gates; January 17, Stayton; January 20, Aumsville; January 31, Detroit.

Coach Burton Boroughs said other games probably will be lined up to stretch out the season.

New District Army Engineer Visits Dam

Col. Donald S. Burns, newly appointed chief of Portland district, Corps of Army Engineers, made an inspection tour Wednesday of the Detroit dam.

Lt. Col. Jack Miles, resident engineer, led the visiting party. The same day Colonel Burns was honored at a noon-day luncheon at the Salem chamber of commerce.

Col. Donald S. Burns became district engineer at Portland, Oregon, on November 15, 1949, succeeding Lt. Col. Donald A. Elliget, acting Portland District Engineer since the elevation of Col. Orville E. Walsh to the post of north pacific division engineer on July 1, 1949.

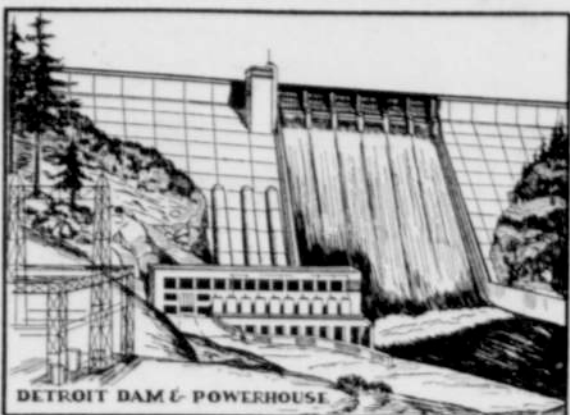
Col. Burns had been chief of the engineering division, military construction, office of the chief of engineers, since August, 1947, prior to coming to Portland.

Colonel Burns was born in Pennsylvania and entered the service from Arizona. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, class of 1920, and of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, class of 1922.

Colonel Burns takes the place long occupied by Col. O. E. Walsh, now North Pacific engineer. As Walsh's successor, Burns will carry out the vast responsibility of the Willamette valley project, which includes the Detroit dam, and completed will cost almost half a billion dollars.

EDITOR RESIGNS

Leo Dean, recently appointed editor of the Mill City Enterprise, resigned Monday due to ill health. It was announced by Don Peterson, publisher. Mr. Dean, who suffers from diabetes, was ordered by his physician to go to the hospital.



DETROIT DAM-POWERHOUSE

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MILL CITY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1949

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Blame Laid In Fatal Wreck

Idanha Waits Decision On City Election

The upper Canyon area will have to wait till the latter part of the week for a decision on two controversial and overlapping incorporation elections—one including Detroit and Idanha and the other Idanha alone.

In a lively hearing in Salem Monday, Marion county circuit court Judge Rex Kimmell heard arguments on a suit brought by Edison Vickers, upper Canyon businessman, against the separate Idanha election, which the county court set for December 9. After earlier authorizing another incorporation election December 13 in an area that included both Idanha and Detroit. Mr. Vickers is seeking an injunction against the county court's order setting the December 9 election.

Allan G. Carson, representing the county, offered a demurrer to the complaint, declaring that Mr. Vickers was without legal grounds to sue, citing court decisions to show that an injunction to stop an election may not be instituted by an individual.

"Injunctions against public officials performing their political or public duties may only be brought when the citizen's personal or property rights are damaged or if he can show special injury," the attorney argued.

Thomas Mahoney, Portland, attorney for Mr. Vickers and a state senator, asserted that the suit was directed against the county court's "arbitrary and unlawful" action and declared it was a matter of "equity and justice." The court's action in setting the Idanha election ahead of the one Mr. Vickers had petitioned for was, according to the Portlander, "an abuse of power."

(Continued on Page 10)

Business Holds Own In Area

Mill City is one of the bright spots in the economic picture of the northwest, it was indicated today by the volume of business current at the Mill City State Bank.

D. B. Hill, cashier, said that bank clearances and other business at the bank were maintaining the levels of last summer. This is contrary to a normal decline during the winter season in previous years.

Mr. Hill said the rate of building construction here the past year has been phenomenal, and that over half a million dollars was spent in improvements since January.

20 SHOPPING DAYS TO CHRISTMAS

When the days go by in moderate temperatures and the sun still shines (between showers) it is hard to believe we are drawing so close to the Christmas season. However, the holiday mood is beginning to be felt because foresighted business establishments are decorating with the traditional colorful displays.

Errand Boy-Bread Man Has No Time To Loaf

The bread man up our way does a lot more than deliver baked goods. His extra duties are liable to include swapping a wrong sized pair of trousers, or some special shopping chore for a customer along his route from Salem through the Canyon to Idanha.

Leonard Gottfried has been delivering baked goods for a Salem bakery for many years. He took a vacation last winter—when the road was at its worst—and paid for a trip to Mexico with fortunate stopovers at palaces of luck in Nevada and at a Los Angeles race track. He started off with \$1,000 and returned with

the same amount.

His oddest errand happened not long ago. It was performed for Mrs. Nelson Lanphear who had a prize cocker female. In Salem there also was a prize cocker male. It was Leonard's errand to take the Lanphear hound to Salem. Which makes him the Master Bred Man.

Not long ago Tom Booth bought a pair of pants in Stayton. They were a wrong size, so accommodating Leonard took the trousers to Stayton and returned the next morning with Tom's correct sized pants. Leonard says, "It's all in a day's work."



Photos Courtesy of The Statesman.

Two loggers were killed and eight others injured when this truck plunged down a 150-foot bank a mile west of the Detroit damsite, Monday morning. Defective steering gear was blamed. Body of one of the victims is under white blanket shown in lower photo. Arrow in top photo shows points to spot where vehicle plunged from Santiam highway while carrying loggers to work. Marks made by truck in its fall are visible to right of arrow. Both photos show damage to truck which landed on old railroad grade at bottom of the bank.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS ANNUAL ELECTION

J. C. Kimmel and Bob Veness were elected directors of the Chamber of Commerce at today's regular noon luncheon in Mom and Pop's cafe.

Mr. Kimmel was re-elected to a 3-year term. He is a long time resident and business man of Mill City, having operated the pharmacy here for a number of years.

Mr. Veness was also elected to a 3-year term. He is the successful owner and manager of the Mill City theatre. After the election of officers Mr. Veness reported on the action taken by the city council on the 1949 housing authority.

Rites Planned For 2 Victims

Funeral services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. in the Mill City Presbyterian church for Ardell Webster, 32, who was killed in a truck accident Monday morning on the North Santiam highway above Niagara.

Services will be conducted by Dr. David J. Ferguson. Interment will be in the Riverside cemetery in Albany.

Mr. Webster was a resident of Mill City and the Canyon before entering the navy, and had lived here since his discharge. He was a logger most of his residence here. At the time of his death he was employed on a clearing project in the Detroit dam reservoir.

He is survived by his widow, Patricia; his mother, Mrs. Webster, Brownsville; a twin brother, Cardell, and a sister, Mrs. Velma Miller, Denver, Colo., and another brother, Leo, Medford.

Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at two o'clock from the Weddle funeral home in Stayton for Jack Nash who was killed Monday morning when a crummy in which he was riding with nine other men plunged down the Santiam embankment. He is survived by his widow Lucille Nash, two children, Marjorie and Billie. Mrs. Amy Patterson officiated and interment was in the Fox Valley cemetery.

Two Dead, Six Hurt in Truck Plunge

A faulty steering apparatus was blamed this week by Leston Howell, Marion county coroner, for the deaths of two Canyon loggers and the injury of seven others when a truck plunged 150 feet off the highway near the Detroit dam project, at a point just below the log-jam, Monday morning at about 7:30.

Dead were Ardell Webster, 32, Mill City, and Claude Jack Nash, Lyons.

All of the six injured were reported progressing favorably in the Salem Memorial hospital. They are Cecil R. Haun, 39, of Gates, who was under observation for possible internal injuries; James Moore, 42, Lyons, with rib and arm fractures and a gash in his side; Alton E. Haun, 36, of Gates, shoulder fracture; Clarence Estenson, 34, Mill City, arm fracture and head bruises; Leo Kirsch, Mehama, pelvis and jaw fractures; and Ellwin Erickson, Mehama, who was first dismissed after emergency treatment and then taken to the hospital when complications developed.

Truck Plunges 150 Feet

Tony Baker, Gates, who had head injuries, was hospitalized also after first being released. Mack McCoy, the driver, was only slightly hurt.

The accident occurred early Monday morning when the truck, or "crummy", in which the 10 men were riding, suddenly went out of control and went over the cliff onto the railroad tracks below, strewn the dead and injured along its precipitous downward path. The men were going to work in a company vehicle for the Thompson-Hendrickson Logging Co., a contractor on one of the clearing operations in the Detroit dam reservoir.

Alton Haun said he was riding in the front seat with the driver when the truck began to swerve. He said he grasped the steering wheel and it spun on him in the instant before the plunge.

The truck then went over the embankment. Big rocks were jarred loose, and they rolled down the path of the falling vehicle, even after it had halted at the bottom. The loose seats of the truck also tumbled down, further endangering the men.

The dazed survivors gave what immediate aid they could to those who were most seriously injured. Alton Haun, whose right shoulder was broken, pulled up the body of one of the victims who was partly submerged in the water.

At first he thought that the dead man was his brother Cecil, and it wasn't until 15 minutes or more later, when he had recovered his senses that he realized it was Ardell Webster.

(Continued on Page 10)

City Council Requests Housing Authority

The 1949 housing act was the chief concern of the city council, when their meeting was held Wednesday evening November 30. There was a discussion on the provisions of the act whereby communities can obtain low-rent projects. The act provides that cities can petition district judges to set up local authorities, who may then request the federal housing authority to make surveys of housing conditions in the communities to find the need for low-cost rental units.

The council voted to send a letter to the district judge at Albany requesting that an authority be set up. Mill City is the first in this canyon to take such action, and it is expected that several other communities will do likewise in the near future.

The council also received a petition from property owners of the Swift addition requesting graveling of streets in their addition. The street department was ordered to proceed with graveling operations this month.

Prospect Held Out For New Clearing Jobs

Lt. Col. J. T. Miles, resident engineer, said this week he hoped to be able to soon allocate a substantial fund for clearing the reservoir area of the Detroit Dam possibly within the current fiscal year ending June 30th.

Colonel Miles stated that funds for clearing will depend upon how much of the current appropriation is used by the main contractor.

Meanwhile, about \$4,000,000 in projects connected with the big Detroit project have been announced by the North Pacific division of the Corps of Army Engineers. Only one of these was in excess of \$1,000,000, the powerhouse, for which bids will be advertised in May and opened in July.

The others, and their planned opening dates are:

A 325-ton bridge crane, Feb. 8; outlet gates, Jan. 15; permanent houses and utilities, Jan. 10; Big Cliff powerhouse turbine of 28,600 horsepower, Feb. 24; Big Cliff powerhouse generator of 18,000 kilowatt capacity, May 12; and Big Cliff powerhouse bridge crane, July 14.

Big Cliff dam is a regulating reservoir to be built at the same time Detroit dam is constructed, and when completed will hold the rapid release of water from the big dam and release it gradually, at the same time generating power.

Colonel Miles said he hoped the engineers could speed up the pace of clearing operations. Many canyon loggers have found employment in removal of the forest in the area to be covered by the lake.

