

## Writer Attacks Paper's Policy

Although we have every reason to be suspicious of the origin of the following letter, we are printing it in an effort to bring the school board issue into clearer focus.

The letter was sent by registered mail from Mill City, though the writer tried to create the impression he is from Salem. No complete address was sent with the letter. No newspaper would feel obligated to print such letters as they fall in the category of anonymous letters. The writer speaks of "responsible" citizens. We are looking for "responsible" citizens who have the courage to fully identify themselves when they stand up to speak their mind.

We have answered our critic in some detail on the editorial page.

We print the letter in full below:

Salem, Oregon  
July 30, 1950

The Mill City Enterprise  
Mill City, Oregon  
To the Editor:

I understand that you are a recent newcomer to the State of Oregon and Mill City. Therefore your lack of knowledge and understanding of the Oregon School Laws is obvious. You have written of certain matters without proper information on the subject although it was available to you. I have some knowledge of school affairs and can sympathize with a school board when the local public news outlet opposes their every action by misleading publicity. Following your policy from the start and my inquiries on various issues I find your attack on your school board is definitely unwarranted. What prompted my decision to write this was your editorial 'dig' in last week's Enterprise. It is obvious of whom you refer to of inefficiency. It has been with restraint that I have not voiced my thoughts prior to this, but enough in this case is to much. I have read your editorials and 'news' items regarding the school situation in Mill City and have this to say.—You profess to be unbiased and desirous of stating the truth and both sides of an issue. Why have you not done so? I am sure you have received a number of decent letters from responsible people in behalf of your school board but only one has appeared in your paper and it was subjected to your scurrilous comments and insinuations.

In a back issue of your paper you stated that the cost of a new school house was close to \$200,000. I had heard differently and after checking on this figure with the proper authorities (you had the same privilege) I find it is \$119,400 was on. Regardless of anything appearing in your paper to the contrary this was an actual saving to your districts tax payers of over \$40,000.

(Continued on Page 7)

## Fly Breeding Spots Must Be Eliminated

Modern insecticides alone cannot control flies. I. G. Lerman, Marion county health department sanitarian, pointed out last week.

"The elimination of breeding and feeding places should be the first step in any control program," Lerman said.

These breeding places exist in open garbage cans, piles of leaves, compost and manure piles. The female fly lays 100 to 150 eggs which hatch in about a day.

Together with good sanitation insect sprays should be used. Although some strains of flies are developing resistance to DDT residual sprays, it is still very effective. The most effective places to spray are around garbage cans or other attractant or wherever flies are most apt to light.

In addition to DDT another chemical, chlordane, is now being used with good success. Lerman points out. Information regarding special insect problems may be obtained by calling or writing the Marion County Health Department in Salem.

## Coming Events:

**FRIDAY—**  
I.O.O.F. meeting.  
Lyons IWA meeting 2nd Friday.  
Mill City IWA meeting last Friday

**MONDAY—**  
Lions club meeting.  
A.F. & A.M. No. 180 stated meeting third Monday.  
Boy Scouts 6:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY—**  
Softball 6 p.m. at Mongold.  
Chamber of Commerce 8 p.m.  
Women's club 8 p.m. 1st, 3rd Tues.

**WEDNESDAY—**  
Santiam Eagles and auxiliary 8 p.m. at Detroit school building.  
Lions club auxiliary 8:30, 4th Wed.  
Santiam Rebekah 146—1st and 3rd Wed. at 8 p.m.

**THURSDAY—**  
Softball 6 p.m.  
American Legion 2d and 4th Thurs.  
Gages PTA 1st Thursday 8 p.m.

# THE MILL CITY ENTERPRISE

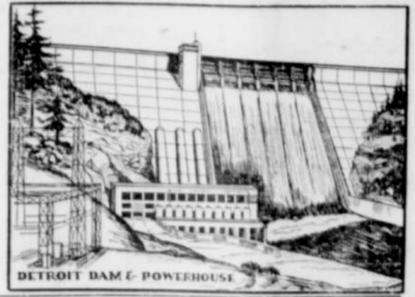
ON THE SCENIC NORTH SANTIAM HIGHWAY — GATEWAY TO THE HEART OF NATURE'S EMPIRE

Vol. VI—No. 31

MILL CITY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1950

\$2.50 a Year, 5c a Copy

Serving:  
MILL CITY  
DETROIT  
ELKHORN  
GATES  
IDANHA  
LYONS  
MEHAMA  
MONGOLD



DETROIT DAM POWERHOUSE

## First Cement Pour Saturday At Dam

### Citizens League Opposes School Bond Proposal

Voters of Mill City school district 129-J were urged to vote down the proposed \$44,000 bond issue by the Citizens League in a meeting last week.

The league heard a report of an investigation into past school expenditures. League members expressed concern over permitting a further bond issue when a previous bond issue had yet to be properly audited.

In September, 1948, they were told, the Mill City school district sold the bond issue of \$101,700 for a \$1,200 premium indicating the splendid state of school district credit at that time. Though the bond issue was for buildings in Linn county and the district operates under the direction of the Linn county superintendent of schools, the bonds were placed under Marion county jurisdiction.

The Enterprise learned this week that Linn county authorities thus

were not aware of the existence of the bond issue in July, 1949, and were unable to audit the expenditure of the money when the books for the 1948-1949 school year were supposed to be audited. This year when the records of school district 129-J were first submitted to the proper authorities for examination they did not contain data pertaining to the bond issue. An urgent request for such matter was drawn up this week by these authorities.

Up to Tuesday of this week, the records of the bond issue expenditures had not been placed for audit, the Enterprise learned. Also unaudited were warrants, etc., drawn on the reserve fund of \$43,594.80.

At last week's meeting, Citizens League members expressed the wish that the school board had sent a representative to help clear up doubts in their minds as to the wording of the request for the \$44,000 bond issue. Most of them expressed total approval of any expenditure for a school bus but would have liked an accounting of other expenditures. Some of them indicated the wording looked like a trick to get approval of the total measure on the single strong need of a new school bus.

Upon approval of this bond issue, voters of Mill City would place their district near the ultimate limit for which they can bond the district. Thus in the event of a serious need for credit in the near future occur, only the increased property valuations or approval of heavier yearly taxes could rescue the district.

### Flegel Hits Power Of State Boards At County Picnic

With George Steffy of Mill City presiding, Linn county's democratic organization gathered 350-strong at Pioneer park in Brownsville Sunday.

Featured speaker of the afternoon was democratic candidate for governor, State Senator Austin Flegel of Portland who charged "Republican stand-pattism and do-nothingism have set Oregon back a generation."

Oregon's Republican-administered state government is not run "by and for" the people, but "by and for" 139 state boards and commissions, Flegel declared.

The commissions, Flegel charged, are dominated by special interests, and act as judge and jury under self-made rules and regulations.

Poor administration of state offices, the state hospital, and other state agencies, were cited by Flegel, who said that records in the secretary of state's office are audited by the secretary, and not by an outside auditor responsible to the legislators.

Over 25 percent of the inmates in the state hospital were placed there because they were old, and had no place to live, but were not insane, he stated.

"The Republicans have virtually been in charge of Oregon's state government for the past 72 years," Flegel declared, "and they can't escape their responsibility for poor and inefficient government."

Also heard at the picnic were Howard Latourette, candidate for U. S. Senate; Dave Shaw, candidate for house of representatives; Elmer Sahlstrom and Walter Shelby, candidates for the state senate; Dave Epps and Earl G. Mason, candidates for state representative; and Fred Mespelt, candidate for county commissioner.

Epps, Mill City and Sweet Home merchant denounced "Republican business leadership which is trying to kite the prices farmers and working people are paying. It is the Democratic administration which is trying to protect the public from inflation."

Elmer Sahlstrom, Eugene attorney who is contending for the joint Linn-Lane senate seat, called for "re-establishment of two-party government in Salem, where Republicans have ruled since 1876".

Introduced for brief statements were Howard Latourette, candidate for U. S. Senate; Mrs. Gladys Laast of Pendleton, new state vice chairman of the Democratic State committee, Monroe Sweetland of Milwaukie, Democratic national committeeman for Oregon, and Fred Mespelt of Scio, candidate for county commissioner.

Three-year-old Suzanne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sasse of Harrisburg, sang for the crowd. A collection of more than \$100 was taken for the Linn county committee treasury.

Old-timers stated that it was the biggest Linn county picnic in many years.

### CORRECTION

In last week's issue the wrong firm was credited with furnishing the compact presented at the Air Show. The firm which furnished the compact at cost was Bakers' Mill City Jewelry.

### Three Span Bridge Due For Idanha-Blowout Road

A three-span concrete steel-reinforced bridge is to be built on the Blowout Creek-Idanha road, army engineers indicated in Portland this week.

Bids, for the structure will be asked soon, District Engineer Donald S. Burns, announced. The bridge, part of the Detroit dam project, will span the North Santiam river.

Maj. Sam Floyd Warren has been assigned to the Detroit project for training and observation of construction, Colonel Burns said.

### Mill City Now Has Food Locker Service

Joining the ranks of Mill City businesses last month was the Hill Top Lockers now doing business on the Linn county side, next to Red's Hill Top Trading Post on South First street.

Operating under the management of Bill Hirte, the new establishment has 300 lockers ready to serve Mill City customers wishing to take advantage of modern freezing service.

Operating behind the slogan "Enjoy Summer Freshness All Winter Long," the new firm informs its customers that freezing is one of the simplest and easiest methods of preserving foods in their natural "fresh" state for future use, retaining practically all the fresh flavor, vitamin content and food value.

New customers are asked to follow certain rules in order to obtain maximum benefit from their lockers. These rules include the selection of foods of good quality, quick handling, thorough cooling of food before packaging, proper wrapping material and techniques, and perhaps most important of all is "sharp freezing" before storing in lockers. "Single meal" packaging and the labeling of all containers for quick and correct identification. Details can be obtained at the lockers.

The lockers are open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and during berry picking season from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Sundays.

### Timber on Sardine Creek To Be Sold

Sale of 31 million feet of timber in the Sardine creek area between Gates and Detroit dam was approved Tuesday by the timber sales committee of the state forestry board.

Date for the September auction will be set and advertising will be placed within a week, the committee decided. Members said bond and contract requirements will be such to permit small as well as large timber operators to bid.

Minimum prices accepted were set at \$20 a thousand for 21,500,000 feet of Douglas fir; \$3 a thousand for 8,500,000 feet of hemlock and cedar; \$8 per thousand for 1,000,000 feet of white pine and noble fir.

The timber will be sold at an oral auction.

Members of the timber sales committee are Floyd Hart, Medford; Leo Hart, Antelope, and Albert Powers, Coos Bay.

The minimum prices established by the committee put the anticipated total price in the vicinity of \$500,000, of which 75 percent would go to the county and 25 percent to the state for reforestation work.

### Two Dates for Voters

Mill City voters are reminded there will be two events on the school district calendar for next week.

On Tuesday, the \$44,000 bond issue election will be held from 2 to 8 p.m., standard time. Regular monthly meeting of the school board will take place on Wednesday at the Mill City school building at 8 p.m.

### WEYERHAUSER STRIKE ENDS

After nine weeks, the strike against the Weyerhaeuser timber company by the IWA-CIO ended last week.

The strike-ending agreement provided for a five cent wage increase, three paid holidays, a health and welfare plan, the check-off for the payment of union dues and initiation fees and a union security clause.

### Bike Riders Must Stay Off Sidewalks

Youngsters who have been riding their bikes on Mill City sidewalks received a stern warning from Mill City police this week.

Police Chief J. T. King warned the youngsters that due to complaints received by the police department the ordinance concerning bicycle riding will be strictly enforced.

Ordinance No. 20 section 4 states, "No person shall ride or operate any bicycle on any sidewalk in the city of Mill City."

King stated that bicycle riders can use city streets but that they must respect all traffic laws just like automobile drivers.

"One accident last Saturday involving a pedestrian on a city sidewalk and a bicycle rider resulted in injuries being received by both parties involved," King stated. "Neither were hurt seriously, but that was just luck."

In addressing the youngsters the chief said, "Come on you kids—and big kids, too—stay off the sidewalks. Anyone caught riding on the sidewalks could have his bike taken away from him for a few days or he could be made to pay a fine."

Evidently, the chief means business.

### Stage Lines Seeking Boost in Commuter Fares to Damsite

Commuter rates between Mill City and Detroit dam would be raised 50 percent under changes in fares proposed by the Hamman Stage Lines.

The Mill City-Detroit dam change is part of a number of rate changes proposed for commuters between the dam and points to the west. A public hearing in the office of the state public utilities commissioner will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, August 17, to consider a petition requesting the fare boost.

The petition would increase the fares of twelve one-way special commutation books from \$3 to \$4.50 for those traveling between Mill City and Detroit dam. Rates would be raised from \$4.50 to \$6 for those traveling to the dam from Mehama and Lyons. Salem, Turner, Aumsville, Sublimity and Stayton commuters all pay the same rate. Currently the fare for these commuters is \$6 for twelve trip books. The fare would be raised to \$7.50 under the proposed change.

Untouched by the petition would be fares between Gates and Detroit dam. They will remain at \$3 for the twelve one-way special commutation books.

The hearing set for two weeks from today gives all the right to intervene by filing an appearance at the hearing. Such persons will be entitled to be heard. After the hearing, the commissioner will rule on the change proposed.

### Camp Pioneer Invader Routed by Boy Scouts

The Boy Scouts at Camp Pioneer turned primitive this week when a big bear entered camp and found the fish heads in the garbage pit. They routed him with bows and arrows.

He has been pestering around for a few weeks making whoopee of the commissary department. Last week three forest service men waited patiently all night trying to get him and as usual he didn't appear. Carl Ball, "Tenny" Moore, and Howard Dean were very unhappy but they couldn't do anything about the matter.

### Canyon-Wide Dinner Meeting Planned for September 12

Tickets will go on sale this week for the gigantic Canyon-wide industrial development dinner and meeting set for the Mill City high school recreation room on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

All persons in the Canyon area from Mehama to Marion Forks, including Elkhorn who are genuinely interested in the future of this area are urged to attend this meeting. Big plans are in the making!

Tickets can be obtained from George Steffy at the Epps Furniture Store or from Bob Veness at the Mill City Theatre.

### First Bucket To Be Sent By Governor

Pouring of the first cement at Detroit dam will be made Saturday afternoon.

The governor of Oregon, Douglas McKay, is scheduled to release the first bucket about 3 p.m.

It will be the first cement of 1,500,000 cubic yards of cement which will eventually be poured into the structure as it rises from the canyon floor to its full height of 463 feet. The dam will be 1,580 feet long and 335 feet wide at its widest points.

Appropriate ceremonies will be held at the damsite in honor of this important event in the history of the North Santiam canyon.

Beginning at 2 p.m. the ceremonies presided over by Resident Engineer C. C. Davis include speeches by Al Bauer, vice president of Consolidated Builders; Col. O. E. Walsh, division engineer of the corps of engineers; Col. Donald S. Burns, district engineer of the corps of engineers, and Governor McKay.

Immediately after the speaking program the governor with an official party will enter the dam area for the big event of the day, the actual pouring of cement that will become part of the dam. The cement will be poured into the low point of the dam. After the governor does his bit, workmen will complete the first pour.

The releasing of the bucket by the governor will be made in full view of those at the observation point.

Visitors from all over the Willamette basin are expected to witness the event.

Four men representing Mill City and Gates are scheduled to participate in the ceremonies.

Mayor Albert Millsap and Chamber of Commerce president W. R. Hutcherson are expected to represent Gates. Mayor Albert Toman and Bob Veness, chamber president will represent Mill City.

### Steffy Joins Staff Of Epps Furniture

George Steffy, chairman of the industrial committee of the Mill City chamber of commerce, has been named manager of the Mill City store of the Epps Furniture Co., Dave Epps announced this week.

Steffy replaces Abe Harris who has returned to his home town of Kansas City, Missouri, after doing a splendid job at the Mill City store, Epps said. Harris left for the midwest early this week with his wife and two sons.

The new manager has been in the construction business along the Pacific Coast during the past 12 years being recently connected with the CBI. In accepting the new position Steffy expressed his belief in the future of the North Santiam country. As chairman of the industrial committee he has probed deeply into the potential economic assets of this area.

Norman Marttala and Darrell Farman also serve customers patronizing the local store. Mr. and Mrs. Dave Epps will be in Mill City handling business matters during the next week.

### Parents Required by Law To Get Children to School

The county school superintendent's office advises all parents of school age children to prepare them for entering school on the opening day this coming September.

The compulsory education law states that EVERY parent or guardian be held responsible for and required to send all children of school age under their control, to school regularly.

If for any reason any parent or guardian is in doubt about the law, additional information can be secured from your local school officials or the county school office in Salem.

### HUTCHESON NAMED JUDGE

Gates—The city council met in regular session, Friday evening. The matter of a city charter and certain ordinances were discussed. W. R. Hutcherson was named municipal judge; Fred Butler, city recorder and Floyd Fleetwood, treasurer. Joseph Devers was present as legal advisor.