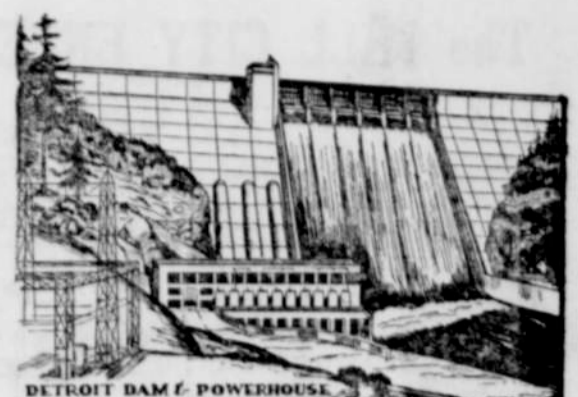


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ON THE SCENIC NORTH SANTIAM HIGHWAY — GATEWAY TO THE HEART OF NATURE'S EMPIRE

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## DISMAL DAM NEVER DEDICATED



The North Santiam power project at Niagara, initiated by O'Neil brothers and Callaghan in the 1890s, was never dedicated because it was never completed. More than \$100,000 was spent in a futile attempt to dam and utilize North Santiam water power where the stream is four feet and three inches in width during low water. (Photo courtesy Capital Journal)

By DON PETERSON

The local Boy Scout troop has been enjoying some evening feasts following their regular meeting sessions according to information leaking out of their gatherings via the grapevine.

On the evening of June 10 the 16 boys present devoured 58 hot dogs and quite a number of bottles of pop, then again this Wednesday evening after their weekly gathering in the park they cut loose on a good quantity of marshmallows. One boy reports that he ate so many that he got sick. At any rate you mothers can blame Bob Veness for providing the marshmallows and doing a bit of rustling up at the dedication of Detroit dam for the pop and hot-dogs, if your boy was sick the following day!

Bob Veness has taken over the duties of Scoutmaster from Charles Kelly recently and both are deserving of your thanks. Kelly has given many hours of his time to guide the boys and we would be negligent of our duty if we did not publicly give him our thanks for his efforts. Many of you do not seem to realize the work involved and the need of your assistance on many occasions. A parent or troop committeeman is needed at every meeting and it is very seldom that any one even bothers to say "thank you" to these men who give of their time in order to carry out the Scout program.

Someone was kind enough to send me a clipping pasted to a postcard which was a "letter to the editor" of some other newspaper signed by one James J. Mann, of Hood River. Mr. Mann's blood was boiling according to his letter, by the statements made by Elmer McClure, president of the State Grange at Medford recently, attacking Secretary McKay.

Mr. Mann wrote the following:

"It is too bad some people cannot get over the something for nothing, cradle to the grave ideas which started in the minds of many about 20 years ago and which thought still seems to exist in them.

"Seems to me that McClure had better use his time and vocal efforts in an endeavor to breed in the minds of his constituents the necessity for them to begin thinking about the interests of the general tax-paying public who have been wet nursing them entirely too long in the way of farm subsidies.

"It is high time these unnecessary expenditures by the department of agriculture were very materially reduced, and expenditures for such unwarranted projects as the Hell's Canyon dam eliminated entirely.

"JAMES J. MANN, Hood River."

Perhaps Mr. Mann and the person who so kindly sent me the clipping anonymously should study a little more of what is going on in other ways to "coddle" big business and what has been going on ever since this great nation was founded. History is full of details of the many subsidies to large companies such as the railroads while they were starting on the east coast and crossing the plains up to this very day. Thousands of acres of land was donated to the railroads by the government, many re-organizations took place until this country has paid for the railroads several times over.

Has Mr. Mann wept any tears over the money this government has spent to make it possible for these railroads to pay dividends to its stockholders? I don't think he even realizes what we have invested.

Then there are the steamship companies who have been subsidized many times—wasn't it just a few weeks ago that we gave away the U.S.S. United States for about one-third its cost to a steamship company? Subsidizing I believe is what it is called. Mr. Mann didn't say anything about that, he must approve of that kind of "something for nothing" deal. Of course, the aviation companies have all been subsidized from the start, both the manufacturing companies by large tax-write-offs reaching into the millions of dollars every year, and the operating companies by fat mail contracts, etc., then the steel companies have also received many millions of dollars in tax-write-offs and refunds until their profits have continually climbed into the astronomical heavens—their income has increased 374.3% from 1939 to 1951 to the point where their NET PROFITS AFTER TAXES was \$596.2 million in 1951, according to information in the Congressional Record.

Of course Mr. Mann didn't say anything about the electric companies either. Didn't they just finish collecting a 20% surcharge which netted them many millions of dollars so they

(Continued on Page 4)

## Jack Allaway Dies From Heart Attack

Jack Allaway of Mehama died suddenly Tuesday afternoon after suffering a heart attack at Gold Beach. Mr. Allaway had visited his physician and was ordered to take it easy and was left lying down in the doctor's office. But while the doctor was busy with other duties Mr. Allaway left and walked down to his boat dock, where the doctor found him a short time later, too late to help him.

Allaway was worthy master of his Masonic Lodge No. 180 and an active figure in the social and civic affairs of the North Santiam communities. Allaway had acted as guide for those going on fishing trips out of Gold Beach for several years.

Tuesday's fatal attack was the second heart attack for him. His first attack came about a year ago. At that time he remained in a hospital for a short time.

Allaway is survived by his widow, Mrs. Pearl Allaway, and one son Jack Allaway Jr. of Vancouver, Wash. The Allaways have operated The Hub restaurant in Mehama for a number of years.

The funeral will be at 10 a.m. Friday morning at Weddle Funeral Home in Stayton with Rev. N. N. Neufelt officiating.

## Wm. M. Downing, 86, Dies, Heart Attack

Wm. M. "Bill" Downing, 86, of Lyons succumbed late Wednesday afternoon at his home in Lyons to a heart attack. Mr. Downing had been in good health in spite of failing some with the advance of his years.

Downing is survived by several sons and daughters, two of whom live in Lyons, Orville, a son, and Mrs. Forest Nydegger, a daughter, and one grandson, Duane M. Downing of Mill City.

The funeral will be Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. at Weddle's Funeral Home in Stayton.

## Overnight Camping Offered at Parks

Salem—(Special)—The State Parks division, Oregon State Highway department is entering its second season offering overnight camping facilities in 30 state park areas.

During last year, the first year overnight camping facilities were offered in state parks, over 44,000 campers took advantage of accommodations. Forty-seven per cent of this total were estimated to be out-of-state travelers. Some 50,000 campers are expected to use state parks again this season.

Three of these camping areas are major improved developments with tent and trailer camp sites including parking spaces, water, picnic tables, electric or wood stoves, restrooms, shower and laundry facilities. The other 27 are improved camps providing camp spaces with wood stoves, tables, water and latrine facilities.

The improved camps are at Silver Falls State park, east of Salem, Walla Walla State park, in northeastern Oregon and Emigrant Spring State park between Pendleton and LaGrande. Other improved camps are under construction at the present time including Spencer Creek Wayside near Newport, the Cove Palisades State park in central Oregon and Humburg Mountain State park near Port Orford.

Unimproved camps include Jessie M. Honeyman and Neptune State parks on the Oregon coast; Cascadia and Armitage State parks in the Willamette valley; Cline Falls State park and Redmond-Bend Wayside in central Oregon; Benson and Viento State parks on the Columbia river and Red Bridge and Catherine Creek State parks in eastern Oregon.

Campers are limited to a one-week stay at all camps. Nominal rates, up to \$1.25 a night, depending on the facilities provided, are charged for camp use. Most of the campers pay only 75 cents per night for a tent space.

Park use has greatly increased in the past few years. According to records of estimated attendance some 2-

## St. Catherine's Church Honored by Bishop

Mill City's St. Catherine's Catholic church was honored Sunday by the presence of the Right Reverend Edwin V. O'Hara, bishop of Kansas City and uncle of Rev. Fr. Robert O'Hara, pastor of St. Catherine's.

The Right Reverend O'Hara gave the sermon Sunday morning and the bishop's blessing in the St. Catherine's parish church and also one at the Breitenbush mission. The gist of the sermon before St. Catherine's audience dealt with the religious meaning of the lives and experiences of the Apostles.

## Traffic Deaths On Increase in Oregon

What's the hurry?

That's a question Oregon police officers will be asking many drivers during the weeks ahead as the speed season arrives on Oregon highways.

Such questioning, according to the state traffic safety division, usually bring a feeble excuse from the driver and an attempt to talk his way out of a traffic ticket. The safety division, however, hopes officers will "stick by their guns" this summer.

Traffic deaths are on the increase, nearly 160 reported by mid-June, and drivers who exceed reasonable speeds play an important part in adding to the toll. Speed, alone, does not kill; it takes another driving error coupled with a driver who "overdrives his ability" to produce an accident. But when that error occurs, chances of death rapidly increase, the division says.

Safety officials pointed out that 116 of the drivers involved on fatal smash-ups last year were driving at excessive speeds. They added that an accident at 60 miles an hour is eight times more likely to produce a fatality than one at 20 miles an hour. While the division does not recommend driving at 20 miles an hour, it does suggest that in heavy traffic speed should be kept within reason.

## N. Santiam Dam Dream Waited Over 60 Years

By BEN MAXWELL

Those who dedicated Detroit dam June 10 little knew or cared about that older dam on the North Santiam initiated by O'Neil brothers and Callaghan in the 1890's.

It was never dedicated because it was never completed.

Today the ruins of this forgotten project stand weathered, grim and eroded at Niagara like some feudal monument. Fishermen cast from its overgrown masonry into deep pools and old inhabitants have confused history and traditions about it for, with a few exceptions, it is older than they.

Weekly Capital Journal for Sept. 13, 1900, contains a contribution about "Industries of the Upper Santiam." At Niagara, 60 miles east of Albany on the Corvallis & Eastern railroad, the story tells, O'Neil brothers (Frank and Edward) and C. W. Callaghan of San Francisco were about the business of constructing a development that would generate not less than 20,000 horsepower.

Here the gorge of the North Santiam is but four feet and three inches in width during low water, "Nature," says this Capital Journal of 53 years ago, "never provided a better place for a fine water power."

At an earlier time the Job and Hamilton sawmill stood at this site. Perhaps the San Francisco promoters obtained the water right from them along with 1,000 acres of fine timber in Linn and Marion counties. It was their plan to utilize the water power to operate a papermill at Niagara in which 100 men might be employed come 1903.

Before the O'Neil brothers and Callaghan exhausted their resources in dam construction they spent nearly \$37,500 of their own money in developing the project. The dam was not completed (winter floods destroyed their summer efforts), the papermill was never built at Niagara and the splendid stand of hemlock timber owned by the firm was exploited by others.

But they did not propose to lose water rights to this development site that defied their engineering and financial ingenuity. The Byllesby company was given an option to purchase and between 1909 and 1912 dropped nearly \$65,000 into a proposed hydroelectric project here. By then they, too, were discouraged.

But O'Neil brothers and Callaghan remained persistent and determined. They kept one man tinkering at the project with a wheelbarrow just to retain their water right. Oregon Electric railroad considered the site as a source of power for their Willamette valley railroad. Others came to look, study, survey and finally depart without taking any affirmative action.

Finally, in 1931, Oregon's hydroelectric commission held a hearing on the water power rights of the San Francisco promoters who had retained their privileges so long and yet accomplished so little. Their decision does not now matter. Already long range thinkers were dreaming about a superdam near Detroit, conceived to serve a diversity of modern requirements.

Niagara's fortune flourished and declined with the projected power development. Shortly after the Corvallis & Eastern railroad (a blighted enterprise with a depressing financial history) reached the locality a post office was established, Oct. 3, 1890. William H. Burns was first postmaster and the place was called Niagara.

When Tad Shelton, Marion county assessor, went there to fish about 1900 Niagara had a store, hotel and a gallon house. For some years before the post office finally closed, June 13, 1934, it had the name of being the smallest post office in the nation. The finale came late in the summer of 1952 when Marion county court, acting upon a petition of George H. Ditto, vacated the four platted streets that were never used since the town had never developed to the extent of needing them.—From Capital Journal.

## Santiam Saddle Club Joins Trail Ride

Riders of the North Santiam took part in the Silverton Saddle club annual trail ride, Sunday, June 14. They report that 117 horsemen and women had a very successful four-hour ride in the Silver Falls hills.

Riders enjoyed a breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m. in the Silverton Legion hall. A lunch was served by the Silverton Saddle club at the half-way mark.

Riders from clubs all over the Willamette valley competed during the trail ride. A prize for the youngest rider went to a six-year-old boy; another prize went to the oldest man, a 93-year-old man from Biggs.

Representing the Riders of the Santiam were: Crystal and Elmer Limbeck, Everett and Anita Limbeck, E. S. Peterson and Larry Nydegger.

## Harry Wood Stricken With Heart Attack

Harry Wood, 76, was stricken down at about 2:15 p.m. Wednesday afternoon by a fatal heart attack in the dry goods store operated by Mrs. Wood and died peacefully within a few minutes. He had been around his usual haunts during the day in front of the post office visiting with his many friends as was his custom, and had remarked that morning on how good he felt. Mr. Wood had been losing some of his strength and vigor in recent years following some light strokes.

Mr. Wood was born in Marion, Ohio, Aug. 15, 1876, and came to Harrisburg when he was 14 with his family. In 1902 he came to Mill City and had lived here ever since. His first wife died in 1919, and he was married in 1931 to Mrs. Mildred Colburn who survives him.

Mr. Wood is survived by his wife Mrs. Mildred Wood and one son, Lyle Wood of San Francisco, and a stepson, Jack Colburn of Mill City; also two sisters, Mrs. Georgia Gudmonson of Bend, and Mrs. Hazel Allen of Pasadena, Calif., and four brothers, Ralph Wood of Alameda, Dever and Robert Wood of Dunsmuir, Calif., and Karl Wood of Portland; one granddaughter, Mrs. J. Westcott of Milwaukie, Ore., and one grandson, Donald Wood of Klamath Falls, Ore., and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral will be at the Presbyterian church Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. with Rev. Noble Streeter in charge. Interment will be in Fairview cemetery.

## Parkett Co. To Log Big Timber Track

Detroit—With a bid of \$1,683 above the appraised value, Parkett Logging was awarded the contract to log 469 acre Straight Creek area, described previously as the largest timber sale on the Willamette forest this year.

Only four offers were received by sealed bid at the auction in Eugene, June 16. The sale price of the timber was influenced by the high cost of development and a hauling distance of 75 truck miles to market.

## Idanha Votes in Favor Of Fire Tax Levy Monday

Idanha — Twenty-two votes were cast at the Idanha fire district election on the annual tax levy, Monday, at the fire hall in Idanha. Of this number, 21 ballots favored the tax levy with only one vote cast against it.

Members of the election board who served were Mrs. R. C. Haseman, Mrs. Ray Watkins, and Mrs. Earl Parker.

157,480 persons visited the state parks in 1948. In 1952 the estimated attendance was 5,390,421 people, over twice the 1948 figure.