

The Mill City Enterprise

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

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Schools in Area Closed By Storm

The long delayed winter snows which many thought would arrive too late to hold moisture in the ground next summer, came with a vengeance Monday afternoon. Snow started falling steadily shortly after noon and continued all day with about six inches on the ground by Tuesday morning.

It had turned colder in the night and most roads were covered with packed snow and ice causing many cars to slide even with snow tires.

Santiam Union High and both the Mill City and Gates grade schools were forced to close because of the heavy snow and resultant bad road conditions.

Bright sunshine gave the youngsters a chance to make snowmen, bring out their sleds and thoroughly enjoy their vacation.

Police Chief Ron Meacham said S. E. 4th street between Ivy and Grove was blocked off Tuesday afternoon so young people could use the sloping street for coasting.

For those having to work the prospects were not so pleasant, and so were unable to get to work at all.

New Serviceman



Appointment of Fred W. Berg as the Pacific Power & Light company serviceman in the Mill City-Scio area was announced Wednesday by Wayne Goin, local manager for PP&L.

Berg succeeds Norman W. (Andy) Anderberg, who was promoted to PP&L's Junction City office as a local supervisor.

Berg comes to this area from Yakima, where he was assigned as a lineman representative for Pacific Power.

He joined the power company in 1946 as a groundman at Springfield. He later worked as an equipment operator and became a journeyman serviceman in Springfield in 1952. Berg remained in Springfield until 1960 when he was transferred to the Yakima district.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg and their two children are now living in Mill City.

Wash & Dry Laundry Has Successful Open House Friday-Saturday

The Mill City Wash and Dry Laundry which was opened last week by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Sophy has proved to be a successful venture, according to the owners.

They said the response was much greater than they had anticipated and that they plan on adding four more machines as the plumbing is already in for them.

At the present time they have five automatic washers, two dryers and an extractor. Detergent may also be purchased there if the customer does not wish to bring their own, or forgets it.

Mrs. Sophy stressed the fact that customers may do both their washing and drying, or either one.

Hours are from 6 A. M. until 10 p. m. and a 24 hour service laundry is in the future expanded planning if business warrants.

The Mill City operation is being managed by Mrs. Glee Waters, mother of Mrs. Sophy, who has an apartment in the rear of the building.

Santiam Jayvees Win from Amity

Santiam JV's enjoyed a winning week by defeating Amity 56-54 and North Marion 50-45. The Baby Wolverines showed new scoring ability and outstanding rebounding strength in these games. Free throw shooting also took an upward turn as JV shooters hit 8 of 16 in the Amity game and 8 out of 12 in the North Marion game.

Scoring in the Amity game showed Robertson with 19, Conover 14, Cline 13, and Ohmart 10. The North Marion game found Robertson and Conover with 12 each, Ohmart 11, Cline 8 and Pennick 6, and Hirte 1.

A good team effort by the winning-type "Wuffies" shows hope for continued success of the varsity teams in the future against Capital Conference competition.

Final Rites Saturday for O. K. DeWitt

O. K. DeWitt, 80, well known area resident, died at Santiam Memorial Hospital last Wednesday morning, following a stroke suffered January 3.

DeWitt was born in Denver, Colorado, moving to Salem in 1905, where he was active in the real estate business.

He and his wife moved to their residence west of Mill City about 18 years ago and made their home in one of the old Transit Labor camp buildings, remodeling it into one of the attractive show places of the area. Both he and Mrs. DeWitt took great pride in their place which houses many beautiful antiques.

He was a member of the Salem district and state advisory boards of the Bureau of Land Management and took a keen interest in the work of the board.

He was active in conservation work and was prominent in the Izaak Walton League. He was a former vice-president for Oregon of the Federation of Western Outdoor clubs. Preserving wilderness areas was one of his prime interests and he was always ready to rise to the defense of the program whenever a discussion was going on.

Mr. DeWitt was also a member of the Mazamas, a Shriner, a member of the Scottish Rite and the Salem AF&AM lodge 4.

Services were held Saturday at a Salem mortuary with the Masonic lodge conducting ritualistic services.

Survivors include his widow, Nell Thielsen DeWitt, whom he married in 1937; three sisters, Mrs. Lucille Richardson and Miss Jeanne DeWitt both of Salem, and Mrs. LaVerne Wilson, Vancouver, B. C., and a brother, Frank DeWitt of Salem.

Marion Rural Board OKs Merger

Official approval of the proposed merger of Gates grade school, Mill City elementary school and Santiam Union High school into one administrative district, was given Monday by the Marion County Rural school district board.

Fred J. Schwab, chairman of the Marion county board signed the official petition for reorganization. It was then sent to the State Board of Education for consideration.

Dennis Patch, director of school district reorganization for the state department of education, said he thought the application would be considered at Wednesday's meeting even though it was too late to be on the formal agenda.

The Linn county rural school board has already given approval to the move to combine the districts.

Shows 30-Year-Old-Tree



Mill City District Ranger, Ralph McCurdy with cross section of 30-year-old tree cut in pre-commercial thinning project now underway in the Willamette National Forest.—U. S. Forest Service Photo.

Mill City Forest District Busy Thinning Trees in Two Areas at Present Time

About 150 acres of dense Douglas-fir timber is being thinned this winter in the Mill City Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest. Crews are working to cut the excess trees from two areas; the main thinning area is on the delta between French Creek and the Breitenbush arm of Detroit Reservoir.

Called a pre-commercial thinning because the timber recovered is too small to be of commercial value, the cutting is being done in a stand of timber about 30 years old. . . trees are between 25-30 feet in height, just under 5 inches in diameter and growing closely together. Some of the trees were planted and many others restocked naturally.

The thinning is the first step toward realizing a value from restocked timber lands. Ralph McCurdy, District Ranger at Mill City explained that in 10-15 years these trees will be about 10 inches in diameter and ready for commercial thinning. The major harvest will be about 70 years from now.

McCurdy explained the necessity for thinning such a stand. "The timber is stagnated," he said. "If we didn't thin it now, it would just sit there, not gaining in value, and growing less and less each year, until finally some of the trees would outdistance others and the weaker trees would die. Nature's way of thinning is slow and wasteful," he said. "We're just helping Her along."

The trees are being thinned to about 10 feet apart, or approximately 435 trees per acre.

Trees in thick stands compete for both sunlight and water, and get insufficient quantities of both. Increment borings taken in the stands earlier indicate that even the largest trees have slowed down the last 10-12 years and almost stopped growing the last several years. McCurdy said increment borings will be taken again in about two years to determine how the stand is reacting.

In a pilot project last year the district thinned 27 acres; this was the first such thinning on the district.

District foresters pre-marked the trees which were to be retained and now work crews are cutting the rest. Foreman Joe Brosig and his crew have been working in the area off and on since December. They will work fairly steady now the next two months. Other crew members are: Dave Oja, Detroit; Jerry Tucker, Gates; John Kuhn, Salem, Roland Edwin, Mehama and Morgan White of Mill City. Brosig is from Detroit.

Several other districts in the Willamette National Forest are undertaking pre-commercial thinning projects this year. Detroit is thinning 350 acres on Ivy Creek, Cascadia 30 acres on Seven Mile Hill, and McKenzie is thinning 68 acres, Blue River 15 and Oakridge 370.

Stayton To Play Here Saturday

By Ed McCurdy

This Saturday the Stayton Eagles will be here to play Santiam's Wolverines. The JV game starts at 6:30, the Varsity at 8:00.

The Wolverines already played a thriller at Stayton. With the score tied at 40 apiece in the last minutes of the fourth quarter, Santiam put over a two-point lead and made it stick. Remembering this loss, Stayton will be hoping for revenge.

In Capitol Conference standing, the Wolverines hold second place, with seven wins and one loss. League-leading Central has won nine with no losses, so the Wolverines can't falter in catching them. Stayton holds fifth position with six wins and four losses, behind Serra and Mt. Angel, tied for third with records of 7-2. This game promises to be an exciting one.

New Park Started West Of Mill City

In a telephone interview with Otto Krueger, district manager of the Bureau of Land Management, he stated that work would start this week on a new park 2 miles west of Mill City.

The 120 acre site is located just west of the Arnold Syverson property and he said it was ideal for park development.

The park was not scheduled to be developed until 1968 but the recent \$285,000 accelerated public works program allowed work to proceed at once.

Krueger said there would be some preliminary work started Monday with 5 men from this area to be employed. As many as 24 may be hired as work progresses.

Krueger said that final approval of park plans must be made by the National Park Service. He said he would also welcome suggestions by local people as to what they would like to have for varied facilities.

Krueger said that quite elaborate plans had been made for the development and when completed should be one of the most beautiful and best parks in the state.

The BLM has 120 acres in the area and the county has about 20 acres allowing for a large site.

Also to be developed further is the Elkhorn Park and the Salmon Falls Park on the Little North Fork.

Grade School Typists Get Certificates

Lawrence Brent, elementary school superintendent, said this week the class in typing he is teaching has been doing very well. Certificates of achievement were awarded to Nancy Cogar, who types 47 net words a minute; Sandra Cooper for 45 words a minute and Kathy Story for 31 words a minute.

The girls are 8th graders. Also given a certificate was Peggy Cooper, a 7th grader who types 35 words a minute. A number of students from the 7th and 8 grades are in the class.

Thinning Douglas Fir

Joe Brosig, work crew foreman Mill City Ranger District, cuts 30-year-old tree in dense stand of Douglas fir. Crew uses lightweight power saws to cut trees. Stand is so thick the trees must usually be pushed down.—U. S. Forest Service Photo.



Detering To Be at Enterprise Office Saturday Forenoon

State Representative Gerald Detering states he will be in Mill City to visit with anyone interested in any legislation which may come before the House at this session of the Legislature. Mr. Detering will be here at 10 a. m. and is using The Enterprise office as a place where any constituent can come and visit with him. He will be at Scio at 1 p. m.

Mr. Detering was one of the legislators who was opposed to the bill, which passed the House, increasing the legislator's salary to \$3,000 a year and with \$20 a day for expenses. He felt that the \$20 a day was too much in face of the shortage of money at this time.

When in Mill City recently Rep. Detering stated he would "be glad to discuss any coming legislation with the people of this area", when in town Saturday.

Scio Quint Defeated by Wide Margin

By Ed McCurdy
The Wolverine continued their win streak with an easy victory over the Scio Loggers Tuesday, 72-49. After a slow start in the opening minutes of the first quarter, Santiam led all the way.

Scio outscored the Wolverines in the third quarter by one point. But Santiam put on the heat in the fourth quarter and scored 22 points to Scio's 10, sealing the Loggers' fate.

The Wolverines hit 31 out of 72 field goal attempts for a 43.0 percentage. Scio hit 22 of 64.

Terry Morris led the scoring with 23 points, Mark Sheythe hit 15, and Randy Marshall also scored double figures with 10 points. Darwin Rorer with 18 and Dick Cloud with 13 led the Loggers.

Wolverine scorers were: Morris 23, Sheythe 15, Marshall 10, Hickerson 8, Whitten 6, Hirte 4, Cannon 4, and Podrabsky 2.

Accidents in Woods May Go Up 20%

Accidents in the woods this coming season may increase as much as 20 percent because of the extreme danger in logging blowdown trees felled by the October 12 windstorm, it was brought out at the meeting of the North Santiam Chapter of the Timber Operators Safety Council meeting held at The Last Frontier Wednesday night.

Noyes Whitten, chairman, opened the meeting and turned it over to Hap Ware of Stayton who took charge of the program which had to do with loading, loading equipment and radio whistle. Most of the small group present took an active part in discussing all phases of logging. When speaking of selection of landings, it was brought out that it was imperative to keep the landings clean for a safe, efficient operation.

The topic of standard signals in the woods was brought up and one of the main points stressed was to be sure the signals were loud enough to be heard all over the area where equipment is being used.

When loading equipment is left standing, it was suggested that grapple hooks not be left hanging in the air, but left on the ground or straddling a log. This was also true in loading shovels and blades. They should be lowered to the ground when not in use.

When discussing the use of tongs it was stressed that loaders should be sure to use big enough tongs and keep them sharp, and kept in the proper shape.

The radio whistle came in for a lot of discussion. Not too many loggers in this area use the radio whistle. One TOC representative stated "some swear by them, others at them."

Loggers should hire experienced loaders and encourage them to use care in loading trucks. Truckers were also urged to use sufficient binders to keep their loads safe.

Mill owners who operate log dumps should be sure there is a man at the dump to take care of the unloading. Some owners let truckers unload their own loads, which is a poor practice. It was recommended that owners have a telephone at the dump so truckers can call for assistance in dumping their loads.

Wait Thorsell of the State Industrial Accident Commission showed some slides taken after the October 12 storm, to show loggers what they will be up against when they start logging in the blowdown areas. It was brought out that many more new hazards will be prevalent because of the blowdown resulting from the storm. Operators were urged to use extreme caution and have experienced supervisors on the job in an attempt to avoid as many accidents as possible. Hap Ware stated that these conditions will have to be dealt with as they come up as there is no set rule for taking out any particular group of trees which have been blown down by wind.

Ladies' Night February 27

The next meeting which falls on Wednesday, February 27 will be ladies' night. Most of this program will deal with home safety, and there will be a short time spent on Civil Defense, according to the officials. This will also be a no-host dinner meeting.

Coming Events

Monday, Feb. 4—Round Robin pinochle club at Goldie Rambo home, 7:30.

Bid or Bunch Pinochle club at home of Jeanne Rosamond, Tues. Feb. 4.—Canyon Camp fire leaders at home of Mrs. Wendell Heller, 10 a. m.

Wed. Feb. 6.—Santiam Rebekah lodge at hall 8 p. m.

Thurs. Feb. 7.—Garden club at home of Mrs. Wendell Heller, 7:30. Mrs. Betty Warren, guest speaker.

Friday, Feb. 8.—TOOF lodge at hall at 8 p. m.