

Klamath Air Service Over the Hump Once, In Frying Pan Again

By DAVE UNDERHILL
Even in these days of modern transportation, the wheels of progress are often slow.

This fact was opined by Charles Stark, chamber of commerce manager, the other day when he was talking over the present air service situation in Klamath Falls with a Herald and News reporter.

To back up his statement, Stark dug out of his files several copies of the Klamath County chamber of commerce yearly reports that date back to 1925.

Airport Bond Issue
It was back in that era that the chamber of commerce aviation committee was instrumental in getting an airport bond issue referendum placed on the city ballot list in the elections of November, 1928.

The \$50,000 bond issue was voted in, for development of an airport, but there was one delay in starting work.

Apparently there was a question as to the right of municipalities to construct airports outside their boundaries, and work could not be started until the courts of Oregon finally handed down a favorable decision.

Due to a technicality, the bond issue had to be re-voted, and it was not till the summer of 1930 that the airport was in condition to land planes.

Runways
During the fiscal year May 1, 1930 to May 1, 1931, two gravelled and oiled runways were constructed. They were 2000 and 1000 feet in length. A modern hangar was also constructed and facilities provided for gasoline, oil and water.

At the same time the chamber aviation committee was hoping for and working toward Klamath Falls' place on an emergency air route and also a route from Reno to the Dalles.

During the following year air transportation was considerably slowed down as was any other business owing to the depression.

However it was reported that the department of commerce had completed a survey for an alternate air route in the coastwise air service, and Klamath Falls was included.

Weather Bureau
Simultaneously the committee had approached Senator Steiwer to see what could be accomplished toward establishment of a weather bureau in conjunction with the airport.

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Within the year 1933-34 much was done in improving the existing aviation set-up. In cooperation with city officials and through the civil works administration, \$18,380.89 was spent in improvements on the field.

The entire airport was cleared, and the runway increased to 3500 feet in length and 100 feet in width. General improvements were made in the vicinity of the hangars by filling, rolling and leveling the ground.

Sites were secured for intermediate fields at Chilcoquin, Sand Creek and Crescent. Some progress was made on construction of these ports.

3-Point Program
During 1934 and 1935 the committee under chairmanship of G. A. Krause worked on a three-point program. As always it was striving toward improvement of the municipal airport. Next was the establishment of direct airmail service, and finally the completion of intermediate airports for ultimate establishment of an alternate air route east of the Cascade mountains.

Another east-west runway was added and 23 additional acres of land purchased.

Work on the three emergency landing fields at Chilcoquin, Sand Creek and Crescent continued. But thus far, efforts to light the fields proved unsuccessful.

Out attention now jumps to the year 1940-41, when the yearly report reads as follows.

Service
Throughout the year the committee has constantly sought the establishment of air transportation that would bring more adequate air mail service, passenger service, and air express service to Klamath Falls.

The committee assisted in the compilation of briefs and presentation of facts before the civil aeronautics board for the establishment by the United Airlines of air service to Klamath Falls.

Additional progressive steps were taken with the instigation of a civilian pilot training program under supervision of the CAA. It was also during this time that through the efforts of the city aviation committee and city officials along with the chamber committee that \$279,000 was let out in contracts for improvement of the airport.

CAB Starts
It wasn't until August of 1946 that the attempts of the chamber aviation committee to obtain service by United Air Lines in Klamath Falls was crowned with success. For it was on that date that passenger and mail service was initiated by United.

Previous to that, in 1945, Phil Hitchcock and the late Senator Marshall Cornett had journeyed back to Washington to appear before a hearing of the CAB. Before their arrival at the capital city, the civil aeronautics examiners had already given an unfavorable opinion of the local aviation situation. They recommended that Klamath Falls be served with a feeder line.

However, both Hitchcock and Cornett were eloquent in their appeals before the board and behind the scenes, and the board's recommendation was reversed.

So it was, after years of diligent toil, a great measure of success was achieved by the air-minded citizens of the Klamath area.

Trouble Again
Once again air service to Klamath Falls is in the frying pan at several CAB hearings, one of which has been concluded with no decision yet rendered, and another scheduled for next spring.

And once again, air-minded citizens are talking to their stumps plugging to save at least what we have, and hoping to gain improvement.

As it is said, "So long as the wheels of progress are constantly turning, and are strong and true, they will eventually wear down all opposition."



MOUNTAIN VIEW HOMES—Maintenance of the Mountain View housing project, located at the end of Main street and operated by Oregon Tech, is the current subject of complaints from some student residents of the housing unit. OTI students reportedly are circulating petitions asking for a change in the management of the project.

Youth Fined For Dousing Motorist

Neil Beyer, 19, of 737 N. 9th, was fined \$15 today in municipal court for tossing a liquid—which might have been beer or cider—in the face of a motorist last night.

Beyer said it was cider. Charles L. Cox, 1320 Sargent, told city police he thought it was beer. Cox was splashed.

Chase
The incident occurred on Main street last night. Cox said a pickup truck passed his car and as it went by, someone on the right side of the truck tossed the liquid. Cox sped after the truck, was joined by a police patrol car and the truck finally was stopped at 3rd and Washington.

Nine teen-age boys were in the pickup—three in the cab and six in back. Beyer, sitting on the right hand side in the cab, admitted dousing Cox. He was charged with disorderly conduct.

Police said there was a quantity of beer in the truck.

Migratory Labor Shifted to Cotton

Migratory labor, through with the spud harvest, and many drifting through the city are being directed to the Southern California and Arizona cotton harvest by the Oregon state employment service, Jack Almeter, manager of the Klamath Falls office, said today.

Aimeter described the local labor picture as "normal" for this time of the year, with neither an alarming unemployment problem nor a scarcity of help.

HIGHWAY DEATH
ASTORIA, Nov. 1 (AP)—The first Clatsop county traffic death outside the city of Astoria in a year occurred yesterday. Wilbert E. Salme, 39, Brownmead, was killed when his car went out of control and crashed near Svenson.

Salme was driving a 1947 Buick when he lost control of the car on a curve. The car rolled over and caught fire.

Salme was taken to the hospital but died of his injuries. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Three Jailed After Wreck

A 17-year-old white boy and two young Indians were jailed late last night after an automobile accident on S. 6th at Commercial.

The white boy, LeRoy Worley of Chilcoquin, was booked at the city jail for failure to yield the right of way, an operator's license, furnishing liquor to Indians and disorderly conduct, then turned over to the juvenile office and lodged in the county jail.

Collision
He reportedly was driver of a car which collided with a vehicle operated by Michael T. Beldraine, 4745 Bisbee, Myron Desjarlais, 20, of Chilcoquin, and Gerald Hill, 16, of Myrtle Creek were passengers with Worley.

When a police patrol car arrived at the accident scene, Desjarlais smashed a beer bottle in the street and he was arrested for disorderly conduct. The younger boy, Hill, was reportedly intoxicated in the car and he was kept at the city lock-up last night to be turned over to Indian authorities.

Worley caused a ruckus at the police station when he was brought in and was transferred to juvenile custody. Desjarlais, the only one appearing in police court today, was fined \$25 and sentenced to 10 days in jail.

End of Woodrum Trial Seen Today

The prolonged trial of Virgil B. Woodrum, 24, indicted for indecent exposure, should be wound up in circuit court today.

The trial has been going on since last Thursday and is Woodrum's second on minor morals charges. The first resulted in acquittal last Wednesday.

In the current case, Woodrum is accused of exposing himself to a 17-year-old Henley school girl out on S. 6th last June 17. Testimony has been concluded and the attorneys, District Attorney D. E. Van Vactor and Defense Lawyer J. C. O'Neill, made their closing arguments before noon.

Jolson Signs New Radio Contract

NEW YORK, Nov. 1 (AP)—Al Jolson has signed a three-year agreement with the Columbia Broadcasting system to appear exclusively on CBS radio and television programs, the company announced last night.

The singer's program schedule was not announced, nor were financial terms. His appearances at the start will be limited to guest star spots. The first is scheduled for a Bing Crosby radio show late this month.

Two Car Prowls Reported

Two car prowls were reported to city police last night, both of them believed to have been the work of Halloween pranksters.

Bert Gray, 2427 Darrow, said a rear view mirror, windshield wiper and mud flap were broken off his car while it was parked on Owens between Eberlein and Wantland, and Jack Fitzgerald reported a 12-foot ladder taken of a truck parked back of Jack's Roofing service building.

CHEST SHORT

PORTLAND, Nov. 1 (AP)—A so-called emergency campaign for community chest funds is to be launched in Multnomah county tomorrow. A re-solicitation of firms and their employees is planned in an effort to raise the \$148,000 needed to reach the chest goal of \$1,288,000.

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THRILLS!
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Canby Fire Loss Said \$100,000

CANBY—A temporary shop is now being used by the mechanics of the Ralph L. Smith lumber company after fire destroyed the machine shop here last week.

The fire broke out in the machine shop and destroyed the building, five carriers, one lift truck and a pickup truck in addition to tools, lathes and other shop equipment. Estimated damage was reported around \$100,000.

An electrical wiring short is believed to have started the fire. The mill closed for one day but has now resumed operation.

Slide Blocks Road; Cleared

A rock slide on the east slope of Algoma hill early this morning blocked US 97 for several hours before daylight, but was cleared off for traffic both ways this morning.

Tom Edwards, highway maintenance superintendent here, said he estimated some 3000 tons of rock and earth slid onto the highway about 2 a. m. By 3:30 a. m. a work crew and bulldozer had the highway cleared for one-way traffic.

By noon today both lanes were clear but several days of work will have to be done at the slide area, Edwards said.

Bullet Fired Into Home

A bullet was fired through a window of the home of Mrs. W. G. Ely, 3515 Summers lane, yesterday, state police report.

The slug, apparently a stray 22 calibre, smashed a bedroom window and venetian blind. It was found later on a floor in a closet.

Another rifle shot, this one apparently from an air gun, broke a plate glass window at the Copeland Lumber company office, 66 Main, last night.

Wood Pile Fire Extinguished

Local fire departments reported only one minor fire over Halloween. At 2:31 this morning a woodpile fire was put out by firemen at 219 Broadway.

Only small damage was reported. The fire started from smoldering ashes.

Most Montana Farms Are Electrified

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP)—Nearly two thirds of Montana's farms now receive electricity. Rural electrification administration data here show 23,462, or 62.2 per cent, of the state's rural homesteads now are electrified.

This compares with a national average of about 75 per cent while 11 states can boast 95 per cent rural electrification, the REA said.

Municipal Court

Myron Desjarlais, disorderly conduct. Fine, \$25 and 10 days.
Wayne A. Gober, failure to yield right of way. Recogged.
Neil Beyer, disorderly conduct. Fine \$15.
Raymond Thomas, violation basic rule. Recogged.
James H. Driscoll, U-turn. Recogged.
Clarence Podawiltz, drunk. Fine, \$50 or 25 days.
Wesley J. Brown, drunk. Fine, \$25 or 12 1/2 days.
Edison Chilcoquin, drunk. Fine, \$10 or 5 days.
John Ortega, drunk. Fine, \$100 and 30 days.
Robert Green, drunk. Fine, \$15 or 7 1/2 days.

HALLOWEEN TRAGEDY

SEATTLE, Nov. 1 (AP)—Injuries suffered in a Halloween "trick or treat" accident caused the death of a six-year-old boy today. The lad, Larry Parks, fell five feet from porch steps after winning a treat at the home of Ralph G. Band. A sharpened tree branch punctured Larry's head and he died in a hospital.

MYSTERY BLAST

TACOMA, Nov. 1 (AP)—An unexplained explosion, attributed by the sheriff's office to Halloween pranksters, was heard last night in the Lakewood district, 13 miles southwest downtown Tacoma. The blast brought a flood of telephone inquiries to the police and sheriff's departments but there were no damage reports.

Minnows do not grow to be large fish; they are a distinct species themselves.

'Boxcar' House Setup Creates Orectech Storm

By MALE SCARBROUGH

Rumblings of dissatisfaction over housing, particularly that in the Mountain View project, are being heard over Oregon Tech these days.

Some students have a petition out asking that a change be made in the management of the Mountain View apartments and are reportedly refusing to pay their rent to back up the demand. An unconfirmed report from Oregon Tech says the school can and may evict student residents of the housing project when their rent is five days past due.

Oregon Tech operates the 50 units at Mountain View, located at the end of Main street back of Alameda and just off the Old Fort road leading up to the hilltop school. Of the 50 "boxcar" houses, 48 were occupied by student families yesterday afternoon, one by the manager, Norman Conner, and one was vacant.

Unattractive
The whole project is something of an eyesore and is in use only because of the acute shortage of apartment space up at the OTI campus and also here in town for the student population. It was built for temporary housing in 1943 and was almost torn down a year and a half ago.

Dissatisfaction of Mountain View residents is hardly any newer than the housing project and the current wave, say OTI officials, probably results from some students and their families expecting too much.

The houses are liveable—but are a long way from any vine-covered postwar cottage.

Rent Beefs
The grumbling reportedly stems from claims that the rent (\$39-a-month) is too high and that maintenance hasn't kept up with deterioration at the project. The latter charge points directly at Conner, who as manager of the Mountain View project does all the maintenance work except when he can wangle temporary help from the campus maintenance department.

The project houses were jerry-built late in 1943 primarily as living quarters for construction workers building the Marine Barracks, now Oregon Tech. They were supposed to be dismantled as soon as the workers moved out.

But during the life of the Marine Barracks, housing in Klamath Falls was so short the Mountain View project was rented out to military and civilian families by the federal

Red Shield Sports Under Way Tonight

The Red Shield Boy's club of the Salvation Army will open tonight with the first sports activities for the winter months.

The activity program offered here is made possible by support of the Salvation Army through the local Community Chest.

More than 5000 participating boys-boys were reported by the club last year, proving its popularity. The club is centrally located in the Salvation Army building at 400 Klamath. There is no charge for membership but membership cards are issued to all boys applying for them.

Good Floor
The gym floor has been repaired and is in good condition for all games. The club offers a large selection of activities including gym games, ping pong, boxing, shuffle board and various table games.

Capt. A. Longden is in charge of the club and directs sports activities. The club sessions are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 4 to 5 p.m. and 6:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Klamath Marsh Fire Controlled

A forest fire which destroyed about 150 acres of marsh land on the west side of Klamath lake was under control Monday as forest service personnel returned to Klamath Falls early today.

Truck trucks and all available men plus volunteers had been in the marsh area since the fire broke out Friday and had its biggest run on Sunday.

Probable origin of the fire was traced to careless use of hunters, R. L. Cooper, forest service ranger, said. The fire broke out near Jack's Spring and burned south through his Howard homestead. All of his fall dry pasture was destroyed and most of the hay stubble left for grazing was completely burned out to the area.

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MENTAL MEETING
SALEM, Nov. 1 (AP)—Delegates from Oregon, Washington, California and Nevada will attend a meeting of the Association of Mental Deficiency here Saturday.



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