

It Happened This Way in New Pine Creek

By IRVIN FARIS

"Right now!" says local enthusiasm reaching the pop-off point on this important matter — namely, that the New Pine Creek Rural Fire Protection District plan for immediate construction of a new fire hall.

A special joint meeting has been called by Fire Chief Clarence McClain for next Monday night, August 16 at 8 o'clock of the board of directors and the firemen and any other local citizens interested.

The purpose of this meeting shall be to decide definitely upon the type of building, the nature of the materials to be used, draw up plans for construction, take inventory of available funds on hand and compute the total cost of construction. The meeting will be held in the Warren Welch Veteran's Hall.

This course of action was decided upon at a meeting of the firemen in the Vet's hall last Monday night, August 9. Considerable discussion ensued on what type of roof would be most suitable and most economical. The consensus of a flat top roof with a gentle slope to the back would be the most advisable. The fire chief said he would contact Dick Landruif, the Davis Creek fire chief and secure what information he could on the fire hall there which is reputed to be first class. Others will investigate the cost of pumice brick and report where the best and cheapest blocks can be obtained.

The firemen have this premise upon which to proceed. They have the recorded deed to a lot, 26 1/2 x 192 feet, 9 inches, which was donated to the district by Mrs. Faye Keller Rose. It was donated with the understanding that upon said lot would be constructed a substantial building that would be a credit to the community. They have on hand about 109 6x8x12 pumice bricks which were purchased some time ago at a reasonable figure (20 cents per brick) from Frank Ross.

The meeting Monday night followed in the wake of a board meeting held last Wednesday evening. Since we are now in the dreaded fire season the firemen accepted a suggestion from the board to take the fire truck on a series of practice runs—one each week—until every ranch residence in the district hall has been covered. The purpose will be to see how soon the fire truck can arrive upon the scene and to remind each rancher of the necessity to provide some sort of water supply with which to protect his home.

Some water holes have already been established on the map now posted in the temporary firehouse in Alvin Butler's warehouse and garage. But these are not sufficiently adequate to provide the best ratings for the district. Our present ratings, recently received, is a national sort water rating of Class B. For general comparison it is poor but far better than if we did not have an organized district.

Our district, organized in 1949, is bounded on the south by the Oregon-California state line. It extends northerly to the north boundary of the Jim Snider ranch. The population of the district is listed as 204, characterized as a stock-raising community with merchant facilities and a small residential section at New Pine Creek. There are no standard fire hydrants in the district. Some creeks, irrigation ditches and ponds are available for suction supply. The booster tank capacity of the responding pumper is 300 gallons per minute.

The district was organized on a volunteer basis with a chief and 20 men in the department. Average response to meetings and fire calls is about 10 men. Our responding apparatus is a 1947 Ford-Mercury-Sengrave 500 gallon triple combination pumper, carrying a 300 gallon booster tank; 200 feet of two and a half inch hose, 400 feet of 1 1/2 inch hose; one 24 foot extension ladder, one 12 foot roof ladder and other minor equipment. Mutual aid is available from Lakeview, 14 miles distant.

When the Oregon Insurance rating sheet was compiled, we had no municipal fire alarm except the church bell and the siren on the truck. Now we have a fire siren that speaks far down the valley. For a time it was blown each day at noon but some shivers were registered and the practice dropped. However, at the meeting last night the firemen decided that

the practice should be resumed for safety. Its makers recommend that for the best results over a long period of time it should be blown at least once each day. Henceforth, it no doubt will be blown each day at noon.

Although we have no fire alarm telegraph system 25 per cent of the residents in the district have telephone service. Not only one telephone central service supplies the town on the Oregon side and one on the California side. However, plans are working out so that an emergency fire call service will be connected to the Alvin Butler store and residence as an extension of the farmer's line. This service is designed to provide a two line emergency call service for the farmers in the district in case of fire.

In regard to structural conditions and hazards, the state fire laws apply. There is no code in the district. However, of all new structures most of the property owners are being careful to install electrically in compliance with the state laws with the idea of securing the minimum insurance rating cost.

The conflagration hazard in the district is mild due to the fact that most structures are located on large tracts of land with hardly any congestion. The buildings are principally of frame except for the business section where there are a few joisted masonry mercantile buildings and a motel of pumice brick construction.

In order to bring our district up to standard the Oregon Insurance rating bureau makes a few recommendations based upon standard fire protection requirements. These we must comply with in order to further reduce our insurance rating costs.

They are: that all possibilities for water supply throughout the district be developed and made accessible for fire department use. These newly developed sources along with the natural sources are to be placed on the map and catalogued to show their location with the available amount of water during all seasons indicated, as well as ingress and other pertinent data noted.

Also that a tanker be provided for response to the district with at least a 1000 gallon capacity and with a pump thereon that will pump approximately 200 gallons per minute.

These are improvement angles the fire board and the department are now working on so that the district can become standard with a lowered insurance rating.

Truman Lawson has an old truck with a 100 gallon tank on it which is available to the department for temporary use or he will sell it at a reasonable figure. But the district has no available funds for such a purchase at this time. It will require considerable looking up of resources and plenty of donated labor to get the fire hall erected under the present setup.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Deal left last Thursday morning for a trip up through the Yellowstone Park, via Reno where they will visit relatives, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Parnow of Mountain View, California arrived last Saturday for a short visit with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Allen. They were to have left Wednesday morning for their home. Mrs. Parnow is a niece of Bill Allen.

The Keller Feed Mills have come out with a bright new sack labeled "Honker Brand Feeds." It's a good ad. After all there's plenty of good hunting here, too. Sorry to have made it but happy to correct it. It's like serving a guest a nice dish of pudding only to discover that while your back was turned a fly landed right in the middle of it. But in the Vet's story last week I had Layton Gentry as the present commander of the local Warren Welch Post when actually the new commander is Jesse Lightle. I already begged Jesse's pardon so we're on speakin' terms ag'in.

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I must beg the pardon of Jesse's wife, Pearl, too, whom I've not seen since. She is president of the ladies auxiliary instead of Mrs. Myrtle Gentry as I inadvertently related. And it was these two people, folks, who shouldered the responsibility of seeing that everything went off smoothly. Truly they are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Chef Art Lenkelt is winning quite a name for himself as a barbecue specialist. Last Friday evening he and his wife, Hilda, entertained a number of guests at a tasty barbecue dinner. Invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Harris, Timothy, and Mike; Mr. and Mrs. Garland Cundiff, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Haslett and son, Billy of Willow Ranch and Hilda's niece and nephew, Marian and Paul Brocard and Miss Carlene Scottfield. It was sort of a farewell party for the girls too. They left for their home in South Gate, California on Tuesday.

But the party that capped the climax of all recent parties was held by the Willow Ranch firemen and the firettes who spent the entire day last Sunday up at their picnic rehouse in Lenkelt park. Chef Lenkelt had a hand in the preparation of much of the meat that was consumed.

For breakfast the group enjoyed hotcakes, bacon, sausages, eggs and fried potatoes. A tasty dinner was built around a deliciously barbecued ham with scalloped potatoes, sliced tomatoes, corn on the cob, salad, cake and watermelon. The supper consisted of crackers, cheeses and cold meats, and fourteen children present for the full day of fun and relaxation.

Alfred St. Clair pulled a Q.T. on his fellow-men last Saturday. He gave them a great big surprise. He left for Reno at 2 a.m. last Sunday and got himself married in the Baptist Church there at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. Franklin officiated after the couple had attended his church that morning. The new bride is Miss Ileen Hanberry of Lakeview.

And that isn't all. Accompanying them were Calvin Sorenson, of Fairfield, California, and Miss Emma Yates of Lakeview who were also joined in matrimony on the Sunday jaunt to Reno. They were married in the Assembly of God Church there.

I smell gas! The other day my good friend Phil Bartholomew of Springfield, Oregon, whom I have known for the past 30 years, stopped in to say hello. He also introduced his co-worker, R. Bryon Watt, of Eugene, Oregon. These two men along with Marvin Deeds are in the field securing gas and oil leases for the Starrel Petroleum Company which is an Oregon corporation. They told me they were paying for the leases and that as soon as sufficient acres have been leased, a thorough geological survey will be made on Goose Lake Valley. Okay! When do we start drillin', Phil?

Mrs. Velma Newcomb returned last week from spending several days down at Pacific College in Stockton, where she attended folk dancing classes. "Many teachers," she said, "were there taking summer school work. They, too, were taking these folk dancing lessons but for credits."

It was terribly hot down there she said but that she had a great deal of fun.

Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Cloud and their two boys spent last weekend over in Klamath Falls where they attended a square dance jamboree. "Never had so much fun in my life," said Amy, "you should go over." I said, "Amy — if I had your pep and your step — your snaz and your girdap, I'd a been there."

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds



"Let's look for vegetables in the Herald and News Watch Ads... where there's no weeds!"

Cordon Plans Oregon Speech

WASHINGTON — Senator Guy Cordon will have a perfect topic for his "kick-off" speech when he returns to Oregon for the fall campaign. The Senator's first speech is scheduled at Ashland in Jackson County August 25. This is an area which will gain large benefits from the Talent Division of the Rogue River Basin Reclamation Project which Cordon has just steered through the Senate.

The bill went to the White House last week for the President's signature. This has been assured, Senator Cordon and Congressman Harris Ellsworth sponsored duplicate versions of the bill in their respective legislative bodies.

The Talent Division project call for irrigation of about 18,000 acres as well as flood control, and 16,000 kilowatts of prime power. Principal reservoirs will be at the Howard Prairie and Emigrant Sites.

The measure which Senator Cordon sponsored and piloted through to enactment authorizes Congress to appropriate some \$22 million to meet project costs plus whatever additional might result from increased cost of material during the construction period.

Repayment of the project's irrigation costs will be over a 60-year period.

(Cordon for U.S. Senate Committee, W. H. Steiwer, chairman, 334 Imperial Hotel, Portland 5, Oregon).

Grange Adopts GOC Program

Midland Grange has adopted the work of the Ground Observer Corps as a project for the youth committee of the grange, according to word received from Kathryn Smith, grange youth committee chairman.

The chairman reports there are 27 active volunteers, including several teenagers, who are now standing regular weekly watches in the observation tower at the municipal airport.

Since Midland Grange first became active in the Ground Observer Corps in May, when Russ Avery, GOC supervisor, and Lucille Jones, chief observer at that time, visited the grange on a recruiting mission, approximately 1,000 sky watching hours have

been chalked up to the grange's credit.

Mrs. Smith said, "In our grange there are a number of young hopefuls who are eager to help do their bit to defend the American way of life, so they climb the steps in the tower, and under the patient instruction of adult observers learn the fundamentals of "Operation Skywatch." With that training and experience, they will be ready to stand a watch

alone when they reach their first teen-age year, the minimum age required by the United States Air Force."

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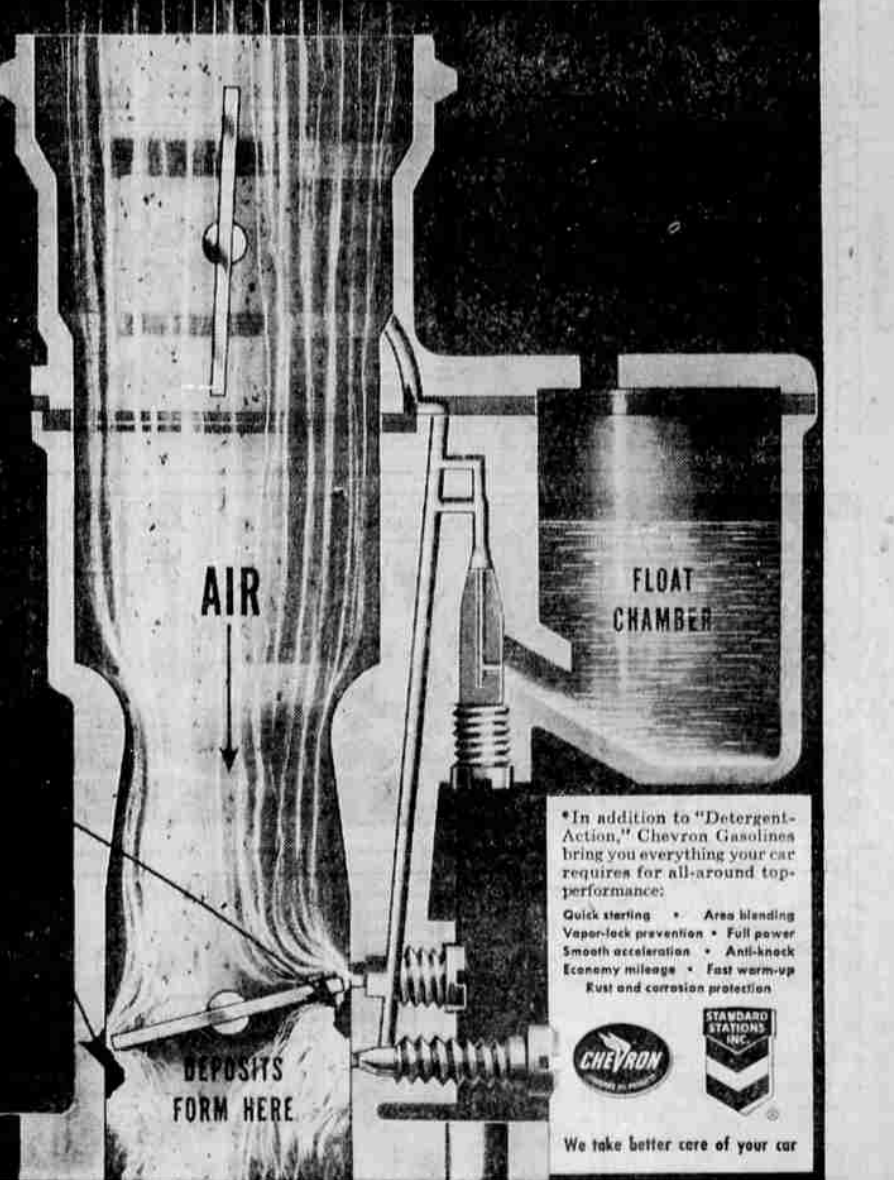
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