

County Court Ok's Closure Of Swan Lake Area Roads

The Klamath County Court Wednesday afternoon decided to vacate three county roads leading into Swan Lake Valley following a public hearing in the morning.

The roads had provided access for deer-hunting on public Taylor Grazing Act lands, which are leased from the government for grazing purposes.

The county court, in making its decision, pointed out that the roads in question only directly affected one 40-acre tract of public land, while some 10 tracts are served by another county road from the Lakeview highway.

A lively debate between sportsmen and landowners in the area

ensued during the hearing. Seventeen landowners had petitioned the court to seek closure of the roads.

The action was opposed by the state game commission, the Klamath Sportsmen Association and the Klamath Archery Club. Over 700 names were signed on two petitions presented by the latter two groups.

The roads to be vacated are Applegate, Whiteline and Bensinger. They branch out north and east from Oregon Tech, and have been in use since the early 1930's.

William Canton, county surveyor, told the more than 30 people assembled before the court that the roads saw very little use and were in poor condition. He said that other county roads provide access to the public lands.

Dick Maxwell, attorney for Maude E. Luskey, one of the principal landowners in the area, said

that the roads served no public function, and that all the landowners had signed the petition asking for closure.

"Only one 40-acre tract is touched by this road," he said, "and there is adequate access by other ways to the public domain."

L. M. Mathisen, regional director for the game commission, said that the road was adjacent to 1,400 acres of public land, which was surrounded by private holdings.

He pointed out that the deer population is increasing in that area, and revealed that 13 deer were bagged by 36 hunters on the morning of the opening day of hunting season last year.

He added that a continued increase in the number of deer would result in an overuse of the range food supply by the deer and livestock.

Jack Marshall, a landowner in Swan Valley, spoke for the closure and said that it was hard to run livestock with too many hunters around at one time.

"For the past two years the landowners have issued hunting permits on a first-come, first-serve basis every week during the season," he said. "Too many hunters are harmful to the property and make it hard for us to round up our cattle."

Dr. R. A. Wood of the Klamath sportsmen group remarked that the landowners "have turned the area into a private hunting preserve."

"It should either be closed to all or opened to all," he said.

Eimer Balsiger, member of the game commission, related that it was wrong for the landowners to keep people out of the Taylor Grazing area and still complain about wildlife damage.

Lynn J. Ziegelmeier, speaking for the Klamath Sportsmen Protective Association said that his group was neutral on the proposed closure as long as access roads were available to fight fires.

ing areas to be in the hands of a few people," he said. "We object to the preference that is shown."

"If this closure is permitted it will permit a sizeable increase in the local deer herd of this area resulting in a proportionate increase in the annual deer damage of the surrounding farm land," he said.

He pointed out that developments such as these closures only result in widening the breach between the farmer and the sportsman and reduce chances for mutual cooperation and respect between the two groups.

Ziegelmeier revealed that the Klamath Sportsmen Association is trying to educate the public to understand the problems of the farmer and to acquaint hunters with the rules of good sportsmanship and hunter conduct.

Hal Ogle of the Klamath Forest Protective Association said that his group was neutral on the proposed closure as long as access roads were available to fight fires.

Barley Growers Hope For Warmth

PORTLAND (UP) — Willamette Valley barley growers are hoping for another 30 days of warm weather.

Walter Giesy, a Monroe dealer, said Wednesday that would permit them to harvest a rich crop of some 100,000 tons. Brewers were reported to be making strong demand for the barley, which is of a high grade.

The harvest already is under way in the Eugene-Monroe area with the first price quoted at \$47 a ton. Deadline for the last of the harvest is mid-September.

According to Giesy the crop will net some 3 million dollars to the 2,500 to 3,000 growers in the valley.

Young Driver Saves Lives

SAN FRANCISCO (UP) — An 18-year-old motorist was credited today with saving the lives of a score of pedestrians and motorists when a runaway truck careened down a steep hill at a speed estimated at 50 miles an hour.

The youth, Wally Alfred, was driving down Union St. about 6:30 p.m. yesterday. He had just crossed the Larkin St. intersection when he saw the truck moving

down the sidewalk toward Polk St. No one was at the wheel.

Alfred immediately drove his car alongside the truck, finally getting ahead of it.

"I tooted my horn all the way down the hill," he said. "The people on the sidewalk jumped to safety."

The truck hit a building, bounced off another truck, swung out into the street and around a parked car. Finally it crashed into a steel Municipal Railway utility pole next to a bus zone. No one was in the zone at the time.

The owner of the truck, Joseph F. Clatti, 49, a building contractor, was cited for improper parking.

Police Recover Stolen Auto

City police Wednesday night recovered a car which was stolen in Newell, California, some time during the last few days.

The car was found in the parking lot of a local tavern after the car's owner notified them he had information the car was there.

Owner is Edward A. King, Newell, California.

A \$1,000 warrant for the theft of the car is being held in Alturas, California. It is for the error of Joe Dedman alias Rhodes. He is described as 35 years old, 5 feet 9 inches and 175 pounds.

FFA, 4-H Club Holds Picnic

MALIN — More than 400 4-H Club members, leaders and parents and members of the Malin Chapter of Future Farmers of America were guests at a picnic and swim at the Malin pool Sunday evening.

The event was sponsored by the Malin Livestock Club leaders, Truett Weatherby and Elmon Kenyon of the Pig Club; Earl Wilson and Wayne Fish of the Beef Club and Keith Gentry of the Sheep Club. In the past the picnic has been for livestock club members only. This year, FFA members and their adviser, Jim Conroy, and his family were guests. Other guests included Francis A. Skinner, Klamath County 4-H agent and his family.

The Malin Grain and Feed Company, of which Wayne Flak is owner, was host for the swim. Coffee was furnished by the FFA chapter, Frank Hale, manager of the swimming pool, and junior swim instructor Carol Vaccnitz, supervised the swim.

GOP Chiefs Plan 1956 Convention

SAN FRANCISCO (UP) — Members of the arrangements committee of the Republican party met with San Francisco transportation groups today to make plans for the 1956 GOP national convention at the Cow Palace.

The transportation groups, including the Municipal Railway, Grayline Bus Company and taxi-cab companies, outlined plans to get people to and from the Cow Palace.

Yesterday the GOP committee, headed by H. Meade Alcorn of Connecticut, studied the room situation and reported "satisfactory progress is being made to assure sufficient housing for the convention delegations."

The committee predicted that the 1956 convention would be the "finest in the party's history."

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Airmen Unhurt In Bomber Crash

SACRAMENTO (UP) — Three men narrowly escaped death last night in a crash of a B-52 bomber at McClellan Air Force Base here.

Slightly injured were Capt. G. W. Copeland, Lt. E. L. Cozme, the pilot, and T. Sgt. B. G. Jones, all from Sacramento.

The plane, on a routine training flight, crashed as it was coming in for a landing at the base.

TOUR ENDED

RUBTSOVSK, Siberia (UP) — A group of 12 American farmers and agriculture specialists wound up a month's tour of the Soviet Union Thursday, viewing the virgin frontier lands here and in Akmolinsk in the Kazakh Republic. They were scheduled to join late Thursday for a flight returning to Moscow.

"STRIP STRIKE"

NEW DELHI (UP) — Government clerks have decided to keep their shirts on. After only one day without shoes, they have suspended a "strip strike" for higher pay and improved working conditions.

They had planned to report for work wearing less and less each day until their demands were met. The original schedule called for pajamas by Aug. 22, and after that only loin cloths.

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