

State Prison Escapes Lessen

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.
SALEM (AP) — You don't read much about the Oregon State Penitentiary any more. It is escaping the headlines because Warden Clarence T. Gladden and his staff have quieted the place down, and are keeping the men locked up.

During 1955, only six men escaped. All were trustees who walked away.

That is the lowest number of escapes that I can remember. Contrast it with the 45 escapes in 1952, the year before Gladden took over. There were 36 in 1953 and only seven in 1954.

Gladden doesn't take any credit for that record. He gives it all to the prison classification committee, which is headed by L. R. Barnes, deputy warden in charge of individual treatment.

The classification committee decides everything about what a prisoner must do in prison. If he needs education, he goes to school. If he needs to learn a trade, he takes vocational training.

It also decides the ticklish question as to how much custody a prisoner needs. If it makes a mistake in giving a prisoner minimum custody, the man escapes. So the committee has to be right almost all the time.

The fact that only six minimum custody men, or trustees, walked away last year is evidence that the committee is doing well.

Besides Barnes, the members of the committee are the deputy warden in charge of treatment, the two chaplains, the psychiatrist, the supervisor of classification, and the educational director.

"We haven't had anybody break out for a long time," Gladden says. "We hear lots of rumors, but none of them have panned out."

"But we have a lot of men who are thinking all the time about ways to get out. So we'll have some attempts some time. In the meantime, all our officers and staff must stay on the alert."

When a man escapes, he can have up to 10 years added to his sentence. Until recently, the judges have been adding a year to the terms of escapes.

But lately, some of the escapes have been getting an extra 15 months or two years, and Gladden thinks this is a good idea.

Gladden has tightened the security of the prison lately.

There now are strict rules that won't let prisoners stand idle in the prison yard. There used to be hundreds.

When I walked through the grounds last week with Gladden, I saw only one idle prisoner on the grounds. Gladden took care of him quickly, putting the man back to work.

Another security measure is the new arsenal tower, located in the middle of the driveway in front of the administration building.

Anybody used to be able to walk into the administration building. But not now. The tower guard stops everyone and questions him before letting him proceed to the main building.

Yes, things are much different now than they were in April, 1953, when Gladden came out of retirement to bring order out of chaos at the prison.

At that time, Gladden said it would take him about three years to get the institution operating the way he wanted it to run.

He worked 16 hours a day, and drove his men hard. Many employees were replaced. Discipline was restored among the inmates and employees. The food was improved greatly. And the inmates were given a wide choice of vocational training, as well as education through the college level.

Now Gladden is pretty well satisfied.

"We still have many things I'd like to do," he says, "but I feel now that the Oregon penitentiary is as good as any in the United States."

Spud Growers To Elect

The annual meeting of the Klamath Potato Growers Association will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday at the Merrill recreation hall.

The major item of business will be the election of president, vice president and three members of the board of directors. The directors will be chosen from the Henry, Poe Valley and Main districts.

The present board includes Fred Mueller, Bonanza, president; Boo Petrick, Merrill, vice president; Paul Fabrica, Klamath Falls; Ronny Whitlach, Henley; William Tubach, Poe Valley, and S. M. Streeter, Main.

Other parts of the meeting will include a discussion of recent developments by Dr. Ray Ross, Oregon State College plant pathologist, and Jack Ross, OSC farm crop specialist, and a discussion of the advertising program for Klamath potatoes.

Fowl Inventory To Be Taken

The annual winter inventory of migratory ducks and geese on a national scale will get under way January 3 through January 16 according to Chet Kebbe, chief of waterfowl, Oregon Game Commission.

More than 2,500 state and federal waterfowl specialists will make the count using 145 airplanes for aerial surveys in addition to motor vehicles used on the ground. Every known waterfowl wintering area from southern Canada to Yucatan in southern Mexico will be covered in the survey.

Here in Oregon such places as the Klamath Basin, the Columbia and Snake river basins, the Willamette Valley, Sauvie Island, and other areas where waterfowl spend the winter will be included in the count. Field agents of the Oregon Game Commission will participate in the inventory.

The survey is of considerable value in showing the distribution of wintering waterfowl and particularly shifts in distribution resulting from major changes in land and water management. Also, valuable information is obtained regarding the actual number of birds present in certain areas and North America as a whole.

This is the eighth such survey which can be considered as comparing with the counts of previous years. The surveys are run on a large scale, and by covering the whole continent in a 2-week period an accurate count of population numbers is obtained with little chance of birds being counted twice.

Three Ranger Transfers Told

LAKEVIEW — Three transfers of personnel of the Fremont National Forest are announced this week by John McDonald, Fremont supervisor.

On January 3, Bill Steer, formerly timber management assistant at Silver Lake, transferred to Drews Valley as timber management assistant to fill the position vacated by Robert L. Bjornsen, who was promoted in November to district ranger of the Bear Sleds Ranger District on the Wallawa-Whitman National Forest at Wallawa.

Pilling Steer's position at Silver Lake will be Ed Vinoski, who was a forester in the Warner district. Bill Knechtel, forester, transfers from Paisley to the Warner district.

McDonald said the Paisley position will be vacant until spring when a new junior forester will be hired.

Tentative Bid Award Told

The tentative award of leases for the calendar year in lease areas "F" and "N" near Tule Lake, announced J. Pitts Elmore, manager of the Klamath Falls office of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The bids were opened Wednesday.

There were no bids on lots 1, 2, and 4. Murel Long bid \$3,887.24 for 804 acres in lot 5; William Kandira, \$4,698.11, 650 acres, lot 7; Carol E. Horsley, \$999, 240 acres, lot 8; Steve Dornen, \$438, 139 acres, lot 9; and no bid on lot 79.

Final bids are subject to the high bidder submitting an acceptable statement of operation within 14 days after the bid opening, showing his plans for financing and operating the lease.

Installation Set By Eastern Star

A public installation for the 1956 officers of Alpha Chapter, No. 41, Order of the Eastern Star, will be held Saturday evening, January 7, at the Masonic Temple. The ceremony will begin at 8 p.m.

Elective officers to be installed include: Martha Powell, worthy matron; Harold Rush, worthy patron; Margaret Sheridan, associate matron; Joy Ustick, associate patron; Leona Selby secretary; Clara Sherman, treasurer; Hazel Rhodes, conductress; and Gwendlyn, associate conductress.

All Eastern Star members and friends are invited to attend.



TRAINS WERE HALTED for several days in the Yuba City, California, area, when flood water from the Feather River undermined right of ways. Don Kettler, Herald and News photographer, obtained the above picture of the stretch of track twisted out of shape by the flood.

4-H News

Our demonstration for this meeting was lyonnaise potatoes.

Sue George, News Reporter

THE SEVEN CLEVER COOKERS

Our fourth meeting was held Monday, November 28, at the home of our leader, Mrs. Ernest Gray, at 7 p.m. president, Martha Cantrill called the meeting to order, with the two pledges and the singing of America, which we have voted to make our regular procedure.

Roll call by secretary, Sue George, was the naming of a vegetable that grows underground. Next meeting we are to name a leafy vegetable. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. We had one visitor, Janice Cartwright, who was a houseguest of Mrs. Gray.

Our leader gave us an outline of our projects for future meetings, and we voted to have our last meeting on her birthday, which will be December 28. We will meet in the afternoon, as there is no school that day. Meeting time will be 2 to 4.

Our demonstration was vegetable salad, and recipes were copied for other kinds of vegetable salads. Our next meeting will be on potatoes. Our homework will be making two kinds of salad, twice.

Sue George, News Reporter

THE SEVEN CLEVER COOKERS

Our fifth meeting was held Tuesday, December 13, at our leader's home, at 7 p.m., with all present except Judy Baumgart.

The repeating of the pledges was followed by roll call, and the reading of the minutes by our secretary, Sue George. President Martha Cantrill was in the chair, and carried the meeting along in good order.

It was voted to change the meeting dates to the first and third Mondays instead of the second and fourth, since our assistant leader, Mrs. Elsie Quinn could not attend every time otherwise.

We voted to have a gift exchange at our next meeting, with a limit of 15 to 20 cents, and this meeting will be on our leaders' birthday, there being no school that day.

We will hold a regular two hour meeting, with rice as the demonstration. Mrs. Gray gave us a recipe for stuffed baked potatoes, which we all wrote down. Each member present told of a way that they had prepared potatoes.

Martha Cantrill was hostess, and served punch and cookies which she had made herself. They were delicious. The evening concluded with the singing of Christmas Carols.

United Air Line President Predicts Good Flying Year

Prospects for new record traffic highs in 1956, both for the scheduled airline industry as a whole and for his company, are seen by W. A. Patterson, president of United Air Lines.

In a year-end review, Mr. Patterson said the industry might be expected to show traffic gains of another 1 to 15 per cent over the record-breaking volumes of 1955. And for United Air Lines, he predicted an increase of around 13 to 18 per cent.

Mr. Patterson said he believed there would be a higher average level of economic activity in 1956 than in 1955; that intercity common carrier travel would keep pace with the increase in general business activity; and that the volume of air travel would increase at a more rapid rate than that of intercity travel as a whole.

United Air Lines, he said, should show increases of 13 to 18 per cent in revenue passenger miles, 20 to 25 per cent in cargo ton miles, and 3 to 5 per cent in mail ton miles for the new year as compared with 1955. Factors, he said, will include the normal growth of traffic between cities on United's Main Line, additions to United's fleet and aggressive merchandising.

Currently United is operating 176 four-engine and twin-engine aircraft. In 1956, the company will take delivery on 17 more four-engine planes, including five DC-6A Carjoliners which will enable the company to nearly double its present all-cargo lift.

United has 261 million dollars worth of new aircraft on order — 115 million dollars for 30 DC-4 jetliners and 76 million dollars for 45 Douglas piston-engine aircraft which will accommodate growth until the jets arrive.

Results for 1955, with December estimated, recorded substantial gains in all categories of traffic — 4 billion revenue passenger miles, up 20 per cent; 53,300,000 cargo ton

miles, up 19 per cent, and 26,330,000 mail ton miles, up 11 per cent. More than 3,500,000 revenue passengers were carried for a 16 per cent increase over the 1954 record. The gains were accomplished with an increase of 20 per cent in revenue ton miles and 19

cruising speeds of 350-375 miles an hour and which will reduce present travel times by about 33 per cent. First deliveries will be made early in 1956.

On many fronts, the company moved to further improve its facilities aloft and on the ground, to increase its passenger-cargo services and to strengthen its route system.

A 4 million dollar program was launched early in the year to install C-band weather mapping radar in all the company's Mainliners. New electronic devices to speed up the handling of reservations and ticketing were installed in cities along the system. A 5 million dollar expansion of the company's maintenance base at San Francisco was announced as were plans for new facilities at the New York and Chicago international airports.

Under a Civil Aeronautics Board decision late in the year, Pittsburgh and Kansas City were added as new cities on United's system, to bring the total to 32. Also as the result of CAB actions, non-stop service was inaugurated between the Pacific Northwest and Chicago and United was authorized to resume service at the California cities of Santa Barbara, Monterey and Eureka.

New services and faster schedules were the order of the year. Nonstop DC-7 flights between New York and both San Francisco and Los Angeles highlighted schedules which meant more and better service for communities along the company's 13,250-mile system. Air coach service was expanded to the point where it accounted for 32 1/2 per cent of revenue passenger miles. Meanwhile, as a new economy feature, United instituted air coach excursion fares of only \$80 each way on round-trip flights between major Atlantic and Pacific Coast cities.

United initiated new interline agreements with a number of foreign lines, resumed an equipment interchange with Braniff between the Southwest and Pacific Northwest and gave many cities along its system their first through international air freight rates under an agreement with Air Express International. Through a reserved air freight system, the company provided shippers with improved, expedited service.

At year's end, the company had more than 18,000 employees, some of whom reached their 30th year of service with the company during 1955.



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Growth Figure Quoted Wrong

Dr. Harold Erickson, Oregon State Health Officer, Salem, was quoted in the Sunday Oregonian, January 1, as listing the population growth of Klamath Falls since 1950 as .09 per cent.

According to R. Frank Tucker, manager of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce, this figure is a contradiction since Erickson's office in 1954 gave Klamath Falls' growth as 4.8 per cent. Tucker suggests that the figure of .09 per cent represents a transcription and that it should have read 9.0 per cent.

Tucker based this figure on an increase of 5 per cent in the residential customers of the California Oregon Power Company and an increase in school enrollment in the city schools of 9.4 per cent. Also the county school system has shown an increase of 8.2 per cent.

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company has shown a boost of 20 per cent in telephone hook-ups in the metropolitan area during this period.

Mrs. Lela Woods, operator of the welcome wagon in the metropolitan area, reported visiting 1,100 new families from January 16 to December 20, 1955. There has been an average of 20 new babies a week, the majority of whose parents came from out of state due to the increase in employment.

Tucker reports that employment has been making a gradual increase until April, 1955 when there was a sharp increase due to construction at the Klamath Falls jet base.

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