VERNONIA EAGLE

Issued Every Friday.
$1.50 Per Year.

Entered as second-class matter August 4, 1922, at the post office at Vernonia, Oregon, under the Act of March 3. 1879.

Advertising Rates 25cts per inch, single column measure, each week. We collect for advertising the first of every month.

PAUL S. ROBINSON.
EDITOR AND OWNER.

Editorials

IS OREGONIAN CORRECT?

The Portland Oregonian is one of the really great papers of America. We, as Oregonians, are proud of the Oregonian—it is part of us.

In building and boosting Oregon, the Oregonian must put more attention to the city of Portland than to any other one part of Oregon. It is right that it should. There is only one Portland and it is the biggest spot in the state. Longview is in Washington. Longview trade is wanted over in Oregon, especially in Portland, but Portland does not want to make Longview more important than Portland, which the Oregonian must remember. Vernonia is in Oregon. Vernonia is more important to Oregon and to Portland than Longview is. Vernonia has more standing timber surrounding it than has Longview in its territory, but the Oregonian never intimates it. Vernonia sends millions of dollars to Portland in a year. Does Longview? Vernonia is the fastest growing city in Oregon outside of Portland. You don't read it in the Oregonian. Every man in Vernonia has an equal opportunity in business, it is not a "company town." Can you say that of the Washington town?

"The city built over night," as has been referred to Longview, gets pages of publicity where Vernonia gets lines. Vernonia has built many times faster than Longview, counting work by individuals and not by one concern. In Vernonia there is nearing completion an industry that will mean many times more to Portland and Oregon than a half dozen Longviews.

The big company in Vernonia, spending these millions of dollars in OREGON, is as big as the Longview company. The logs going into Portland every day from Vernonia is helping to make Portland. What is Longview sending in every day?

Hundreds of Vernonia people read the Oregonian, and wonder if Portland, and Portland's Oregonian, really know or realize what they have at Vernonia—the best industrial town in Oregon today outside of Portland.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Seldom has the country witnessed such universal approval of a tax reduction program as accorded Secretary Mellon's proposal.

This is probably due to the fact that the usual talk about tax reduction is confined to glittering generalities which will not embarrass a political condidate or public official with hard cold facts which must be substantiated.

Secretary Mellon has given the people the figures from which they can draw their own conclusions. Instead of sidestepping the issue, President Coolidge is outspoken in favor of the Mellon plan.

This has been a severe blow to political leaders who would have dodged the issue and delayed action until after the coming election.

With a definite program for tax reduction before them and with widespread approval of the plan being expressed from every section of the country, it is going to be hard for our representatives in Congress to justify delayed action which will cost the tax payers of this nation hundreds of millions of dollars.

If tax reduction is actually pushed to final consideration and passage, it FOUR—Vernonia Eagle ... .. 20636 will be through the triumph of enlightened public opinion over the preference of individual members of Congress to play personal politics at public expense.

INCREASING PROSPERITY

All the reports that we can receive indicate a growing prosperity in this country. The building boon continues. Bank clearings are large. The railroads are loading more freight cars than ever before in their history. The increased consumption of butter in this country last year was enormous. This is always an indication of prosperity. The mail order houses are reporting ever increasing sales. The United States Department of Agriculture and bankers in agricultural districts report a growing prosperity in the agricultural communities. Recent figures from the Department of Agriculture show that the farmers this year will receive over a billion and a quarter more dollars for their crops than they received a year ago, and there is very little unemployment in the country. People in the large centers of population are spending money freely. All these are signs of prosperity and we hope this situation continues to improve.

No such animal as "Tax Conservation and Supervising Committee," according to a court decision. Decision or no decision, the counties all over the state are up-in-arms against the proposition. Here's hoping that it will forever be forgotten.

GUN ACCIDENTS IN OREGON

Hunting accidents resulted in the death of five persons and injury of eight others in Oregon during the fall seasons on deer, small game and birds.

This toll of human life was revealed in the summary of accident reports completed this week by the Oregon State Game Commission. A careful check of all fatalities and injuries has been supplied the commission through district deputy game wardens.

A total of ten counties are listed in the summary with Douglas County at the head of the list. One person was killed and one injured in Douglas hunting accidents. Umatilla and Wallowa Counties each reported two injuries. One death was reported in each of four counties, Lane, Linn, Jackson and Yamhill, and one injury each was reported by Curry, Deschutes and Coos Counties.

The most common mistake of believing a man to be a deer caused the death of two hunters and injury of two. The accidental discharge of guns killed three and injured two. Careless aim caused the injury of four persons.

It was not hunters alone who were killed or injured. One nine-year-old girl was killed by accidental discharge of a rifle and a ten-year-old boy was injured for the same reason. Two other small boys were injured by the careless aim of a hunter.

Rifles were responsible for the death of four persons and injury of four. Shotguns claimed five victims, of which one was killed.

Notices have been sent to those responsible for these accidents calling their attention to the provision of the Oregon laws, which prohibits any person guilty of accidentally killing or injuring another person from carrying or bearing fire-arms in this state. This provision, of course, excepts the right to bear fire-arms in self-defense and does not apply to THREE—Vernonia Eagle... .. 20636 peace officers or members of military organizations while on duty.

35 YEARS AGO

There was a town here 35 years ago, and a paper was then published here. Following are some "news items" we clip from a copy of that old Vernonia Journal:

Alex. Sword has taken the contract to clear off the lot on the southeast corner of Second and Bridge streets, for the new Journal building.

Uncle Joe Colter looks quite at home in his new business. The ground is being cleared for his new meat market, he having bought a lot of Mr. VanBlaricom for this purpose.

Several otters have been seen working their way up the river, probably in search of winter quarters.

Joe VanBlaricom is building a new house for an Eastern family, who are expected here by the 10th of October.

Willie Mellinger is the champion salmon fisher of Rock Creek. He took seven fine large fish out of the wet last Friday.

There was another pleasant dance at the Mellinger residence last Friday evening.

The Vernonia House is crowded to its full capacity with travelers and "star" boarders.

S. J. Brown will soon begin work on a house for Mrs. Backus. It will be 16x32 feet.

McNutt, the Vernonia merchant, has three teams on the road hauling in his winter stock.

The present force of men employed by the mill company is twenty-one, counting the proprietors, all of whom are practical workmen. The force is as follows:

S. J. Brown, manager.
James Ryan, head sawyer and general overseer.
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Thomas Solomon, engineer.
Harvey VanBlaricom, carriageman.
George C. Baker, off bear.
Spencer Rose and C. Reid, lumbermen.
Martin VanBlaricom, driver.
Tom Brown, foreman, Jas. Maybard, C. Tanner, B. Lewis, Joe Lewis and J. E. Guild, carpenters.
Joe Reed and Vess Davis, teamsters.
Jas. Palmer and Geo. Solomon, general utility men.

A good place to live and getting better every day—that's Vernonia.

Job printing of any description done at the Eagle office.

Why Mr. N. Windsor (R. I.) Put Up with Rats for Years

"Years ago I got some rat poison, which nearly killed our fine watch dog. We put up with rats until a friend told me about Rat-Snap. It surely kills rats, though house pets won't touch it." Rats dry up and leave no smell. Prices, 35c, 65c, $1.25. Sold and guaranteed by

The Vernonia Drug Co.

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

The San Francisco section of the American Mathematical society will meet in Eugene next winter.

A record breaking enrollment of pupils in the Eugene schools is reported by Joseph T. Glenn, city superintendent.

Southern Pacific employes from Roseburg and nearby points met in Roseburg for a safety-first and fuel-saving conference.

Umpqua post of the American Legion at Roseburg is ahead of all other posts of the state in the matter of paid-up membership for 1924.

The Gilpin Construction company will begin the filling of the streets in the devastated district of Astoria about the middle of the month.

Salem is buying more liquor glasses now than at any time in its history, according to William Gahlsdorf, proprietor of the largest glassware store in the city.

The epidemic of diphtheria and measles prevalent in Portland for the last three or four weeks is on the wane, according to City Health Officer Parrish.

Efforts to find H. C. Topping, sheriff of Jefferson county, charged with converting to his own use more than $2000 belonging to the county, have so far been unavailing.

Automobile insurance rates for collision and property damage are due to be reduced throughout this state in the near future, in the belief of a number of insurance men.

In 1923, for the first year since 1909, when the Port of Portland commission took over the towage service between Portland and the sea, it has been operated at a profit.

The Southern Pacific company in a report filed in the offices of the public service commission, indicated that the corporation now has a surplus of 1499 cars in Oregon.

The recently organized Portland Pulp & Paper company will erect a paper mill costing approximately $1,200,000 on North Portland harbor, according to plans of the company.

The 1922 season brought court convictions to 167 persons for carelessness with fire in the national forests of Oregon and Washington, according to a report given out by the district forester's office in Portland.

Authorization by congress is not necessary for the construction of the Sellwood bridge across the Willamette river at Portland, as the river is entirely within the confines of the state, Secretary of War Weeks has advised.

Sheriff Hurlburt's tax collection department in Multnomah county has collected and turned over to County Treasurer Lewis this year a total of $14,390,399.94, which exceeds the amount of taxes on the books for this year by $250,241.22.

The Upper Columbia Athletic league instituted by the principals of the schools of Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow and Wheeler counties last spring, will open its series of basketball games this week. The series will include 70 to 75 inter-high school games.

Oswald West, Fern Hobbs and H. M. Parks are the incorporators of the Fort Rock Development company, for which articles of incorporation were filed with the corporation department at Salem. Capital stock is to be $10,000, and Portland will be headquarters.

The lowest bid opened at Portland by Captain George Mayo, corps of engineers, U. S. A., for the delivery of 230,000 tons of rock to be used in jetty construction at the mouth of the Umpqua river, was $1.43 a ton. It was filed by Joplin & Eldon of Portland.

E. B. Watters, postmaster at Stayton for the past two years, has been removed from office, following a visit of a postoffice inspector from Portland who, it was said, found the postmaster $1200 or $1300 short in his accounts. Miss Mildred English has been appointed acting postmaster.

There was only one fatality due to industrial accidents in Oregon during the week ending December 27, according to a report prepared by the state industrial accident commission. The victim was Robert Williams, a laborer, with headquarters at Prospect. A total of 505 accidents were reported.

Contracts for construction work on the third unit of the Southern Pacific system's new main line in Oregon between Klamath Falls and Eugene have been let to the Utah Construction company of Ogden and San Francisco and the Stewart & Welch company of Seattle and San Francisco, according to announcement by J. A. Ormandy, general passenger agent for the company. The contracts provide for 32 miles of rail-bed and include the building of a 8700-foot tunnel under the summit of the Cascade range.

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The first district meeting of the farm loan associations served by the National Farm Loan Bank of Spokane will be held in Portland January 24. At least two delegates from each association in the vicinity of Portland are expected to attend.

The Oregon public service commission has revoked the certificate of operation issued to the Royal Blue stage lines on the ground that the corporation had allowed its liability and property damage insurance to expire. Stages have been operated by the company between Portland and Astoria.

The case brought by the Pacific Spruce corporation to restrain the Oregon public service commission from enforcing an order making the corporation's railroad a common carrier between South Beach and Waldport, will be appealed to the federal court of appeals at San Francisco, it is announced.

Certified seed potatoes from the Weston mountain district entered in an official test in the Yakima valley with lots from 17 other districts in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, produced the highest score in the tests, according to information that has been received by Fred Bennion, county agent.

Plans are now being put under way in Portland and throughout the entire state to raise a fund of $100,000 in Oregon for the relief of large numbers of starving children in Germany, a campaign having been authorized by Herbert Hoover, secretary of commerce, with the indorsement of President Coolidge.

A total of 33,549 applications for cash bonus and loans have been received, according to a report prepared by the world war veterans' state aid commission. Cash bonus applications paid aggregate 21,500, representing $4,634,360.00. Applications for loans paid by the commission total 4927 and aggregate $12,237,300.

The Oregon supreme court, in an opinion written by Justice Brown, held that all the proceedings attending the issue and sale of bonds in the amount of $2,200,000 by the Harney Valley Irrigation district were legal. The opinion affirmed the decree of Judge Dalton Biggs, who heard the case in the Harney county circuit court.

A. C. Strange, county school superintendent for Clatsop county, was elected president of the Oregon State Teachers' association, in session at Portland. Miss Cornelia Spencer, of Portland, was elected vice president and J. O. MacLaughlin, of Benton county, and A. C. Rice, of Portland, members of the executive committee.

Fire blight and the San Jose scale will be attacked in every orchard in Umatilla county where found next spring, if plans announced by R. F. Wilbur, deputy state and county horticultural inspector, are realized. Climatic conditions during the past year have been favorable to the spread of the fire blight, he stated. Pruning of the diseased and infected wood and the use of poison spray will be resorted to.

The Mountain States Power company, which serves all cities in Coos county except Bandon with power and electricity, has announced probably its largest single piece of development for 1924. The expansion involves a new electric plant which is to be constructed in North Bend. The cost of this plant, which was made necessary by the extraordinary progress in Coos county during 1923, will be between $600,000 and $750,000.

The 1923 act of the Oregon legislature, creating county tax supervision and conservation commissions, was declared void because of defective title in a memoranda opinion handed down by the supreme court. A supplemental opinion setting out more fully the views of the court will be prepared later, it was announced. The opinion handed down by the supreme court in no way affects the tax supervising and conservation commission now in operation in Multnomah county. The Multnomah county commission was created by the legislature in 1919.

No emergency fund is available from which J. Frank Adams, of Klamath Falls, can be paid for dike construction performed by him something more than a year ago in process of reclaiming a part of Hank's marsh in Klamath county. It has been suggested by American Legion officers at Klamath Falls that Contractor Adams should be paid for this work for which he submitted a bill for $24,956. Ex-Secretary of the Interior Lane undertook to arrange for the reclamation of Hank's marsh and other tule lands in the upper Klamath lake country on the basis of giving long-time leases on the land to be reclaimed to the contractors in return for their construction work. The American Legion post at Klamath Falls protested, however, and after bids had been received, the lowest of which on reclaiming Hank's marsh was submitted by Contractor Adams, the interior department decided to let no contracts. Adams proceeded with the work and submitted his bill for a part of it, which the department has refused to pay on the grounds that he was not authorized to go ahead.

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