

## MOUTHPIECE of the NEHALEM VALLEY

## COLUMBIA COUNTY

## Advertising Medium of a Big Pay Roll Community

### THE BIGGEST THING IN WHOLE COUNTRY

**Vernonia Little Realizes the Im-mensity of Mill Now Building Means a City This Summer**

Time and space at this time forbids a detailed description of the big work and the hundreds of men being employed at the largest lumber mill in the United States now rapidly nearing completion in Vernonia—the busiest industrial little city in all Oregon today. Few men could give this large construction work full credit or could give an accurate or full description of the job. It covers over 200 acres and nearly all the 200 acres are under roof. It is the only steel and concrete mill in the Northwest. It is the largest all electric drive planing mill in the United States; it is the largest and most thoroughly equipped "Sorting Shed" in the United States. And by April 1, the big 40 acre pond will be full of logs. Before the summer is over the big mill proper will be sawing. A hundred four and five room strictly modern cottages are rapidly being built, (3\$ of them now up) to help house the many families coming in every day. Through the kindness of Mr. E. E. Hayes, Superintendent of the Oregon-American Lumber Co. Mill, we were privileged to go all over the grounds and buildings Saturday, in company with Mr. Hayes who described in detail the wonderful workings of the machinery, the monorail systems, the stackers and the graders, the dry kilns, power house, and all the various buildings and departments. There are six miles of monorail and four miles of steam railroad on the grounds. A lath mill is also being built to work up what is left in the slabs—worth saving. We wish we could make you see and for yourselves the process of the deal from log to board. The logs are grabbed from the pond by electric power sawed and pass through the big mill proper.

After the lumber leaves the trimmers, it goes over a green grading chain in what is called the "transfer," to stackers—also steel and concrete construction. Arriving at the stacker building, the product is handled through two edge sorters with automatic drops, where the various lengths will be distributed to 32 Tanner system mechanical stackers.

Twenty-eight dry kilns are being provided and all the lumber, both clear and common, will be kiln-dried. After being pulled from the kilns, the kiln-cars will be transferred to the dry sorter building where it will be unstacked on three assorting tables by mechanical unstackers. The lumber is here graded a second time, and pull-off men will pull each length and grade, and deposit it in its proper pocket.

Seven lines of overhead monorail run through this building, and the packages of lumber separated as to thickness, width, length and grade will be picked up in units and carried to two immense rough lumber storage sheds, each 258 by 594 feet, these sheds having 12 lines of monorail running through each of them.

The planing mill is approximately 300 feet long, of frame construction with concrete floor and foundation, and will be equipped with ten surfacers, matchers, and moulders—these machines specially designed to entirely eliminate belts—each machine being 100 per cent motorized. Necessary resaws, ripaws, cut-off saws and planing room machinery is provided.

After passing through the planing mill, the lumber goes to cars or into the two dressed lumber storage sheds.

We almost forgot to mention the machine shops—also all steel and concrete—which is the finest sawmill machine shops West of the Mississippi River. This building is complete—the machinery installed, and operating.

This company's lumber manufacturing plant occupies over 200 acres, extending from Rock Creek, just east and adjoining the City of Vernonia. The company also owns approximately 30 acres on what is known as "Spencer Hill" upon which "Millview" their residence section, will be built.

This has been cleared, many homes have been built and work is in progress toward grading streets in preparation for construction of a more

### RED CROSS SECURES A COUNTY NURSE

The Columbia County Chapter American Red Cross has been successful in securing an experienced nurse who will arrive here about April 1st to take the position of county nurse. She is Miss Nina Little of Salina, Kansas, and has been engaged in similar work for a number of years. Mrs. L. G. Ross, chairman of the chapter, received a letter from Miss Mary Cole, Red Cross supervisor of nurses for the Pacific coast stating that she considered the local chapter very fortunate in having secured Miss Little's services and the letters of recommendation which were enclosed, were testimonials of the efficient and faithful work of Miss Little in the several communities in which she has been employed.

Plans call for a fine club house on "Millview" and this, with all the homes, will be furnished with all such conveniences as water, lights, sewerage system, fire protection system, etc., etc.

An up-to-date office building is to be located north of the millsite, and all the property of this company will be constructed along lines that will enhance the natural scenic beauty of the locality.

### ITALY HAS HAD ENOUGH OF PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

Premier Mussolini, of Italy, former Socialist leader who advocates many policies that savor of Socialism, says that in justice to Italy all major state owned and operated public utilities must be returned to private ownership, because these utilities, especially the state owned and operated railroads, are costing the Italian taxpayers unreasonable sums that users of public utility service are securing that service at the cost of taxpayers who do not use it. Farmers who do not use electricity are taxed to support the great hydro-electric companies owned by the state, while people who do not ride on trains or use them very heavily for freight must pay taxes to maintain roads used by heavy travelers and shippers.

Railroad workers, Mussolini says, practically own the state railroads and operate them for their own profits. Numbers of employes and wages have increased out of all proper proportion. Service is poor, rates three times as high as they were seven years ago, deficits where there had been profits.

### OREGON CARS INCREASE

A recent statement by Secretary of State Sam A. Koser, relative to the number of cars licensed in Oregon and the yield therefrom in revenue, in comparison with recent years, is illuminating.

"The number of motor cars issued current licenses for the period ending February 29, 1924," said Mr. Koser's statement, "was 28,421 in excess of the licenses issued during the corresponding period in 1923. There have been issued in 1924 some far 119,865 licenses for passenger cars and 9407 for trucks, or a total of 129,372 machines. During the same period in 1923 there were 92,859 passenger cars and 8092 trucks licensed, a total of 100,951.

"License fees for 1924 aggregate \$3,414,089, while for the same period in 1923 the receipts from this source were \$2,691,351, or an increase for 1924 of \$772,738. Thus far in 1924 licenses have been issued for 1302 motorcycles, 457 dealers, 7438 chauffeurs and 6831 operators. There are 270,550 licensed operators in the state.

### THE MONKEY WRENCH

A board sign on the Soward lot next to the Hoffman block tells of another fire proof building to be built. Mr. Seward will build a good two story building to be occupied by the "Monkey Wrench" garage. Mr. Steiner will be the proprietor and work to begin at once. The north side of Bridge street, so far, is getting the fire proof buildings, but we hear of some extra good ones being planned for the south side of the street this spring.

T. C. Hall, of Prescott, Oregon, is putting in a shoe shop down at the Mile Bridge.

### "MILLVIEW" NAME OF RESIDENCE SITE

Without predicting, guessing or exaggerating, we assert, with full knowledge of facts, necessities and proofs, that Vernonia, before another 12 months will have a population of 5000 people. Now, you property owners who are interested and who want reasonable returns for your money, must do something to "hold your own", keep your territory and assist in the growth. Look up any city in America of 5000 people and you will be unable to find any with a main street existing in the condition of the one here. Then, if something isn't done now you can imagine what it will be next spring. Would you expect people to be anxious to locate here, to wade knee deep to your store doors, to witness the mud smeared fronts and enjoy it. Would you be surprised at vacant property, people leaving and all disgusted. At least four blocks, from railroad to Rock Creek should be paved this spring. It will cost money, but you will get every cent back, or rather, you will avoid losing business, patronage, rents and conveniences. Increased population means increased business.

Pig pen appearances might change the location of the business center. It would be a wise move for every property owner to meet with each other some day this week and plan for an improvement district of this street and take steps immediately to have it paved with concrete, curbed and ten foot cement walks. Think it over. Not a man in Vernonia but what can see ahead. It's good business and it will stop the question from strangers of "What's the Matter With Vernonia".

### BIG CONVENTION IS COMING TO VERNONIA

**Knights, Dokkies, Brass Bands, and a Crowd**

The Pythians of Harding Lodge have begun arrangements for a district convention to be held in Vernonia during May. At that time the lodges of Portland, St. Helens, Rainier, Forest Grove and others will meet with the Vernonia Knights and make it a day and night to be remembered. Claude Barrick, of Tillamook, Grand Chancellor, and Walter Gleason of Portland, Grand Keeper if Records and Seal, will be present as will the Supreme representatives Grant Dimmick and Williard Marks. Among the musical features of the day will be three bands and a thirty piece orchestra.

A regular convention session and initiatory work in the knight rank will be two features of the lodge work, while an open session and a Pythian ball will be of general interest to all.

The local arrangements are in the hands of P. M. Nash, Deputy Grand Chancellor for the Columbia district. L. H. Detrow, Chancellor Commander of the Vernonia lodge is lining up the local lads in a program of real value to Vernonia and to her visitors.

It is expected that a body of 500 outside knights will be present and upon the reception will depend a great deal that may be of permanent value to our city.

Paul Voshell has started to V. H. S. and is a member of the freshman class.

### Picking Wild Blackberries Near Vernonia



### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETS MONDAY NIGHT

**Important Meeting Next Monday Night; Election of New Officers and Other Important Business**

Let every man in town get out to the big Chamber of Commerce meeting next Monday night at the Vernonia Hall. Let's get there at 7:30 and do some business for Greater Vernonia. There will be an election of officers for the coming year and a brief program outlined for the years work. There is important things to be transacted for the city. Every man will be paid in business and in cash by joining and attending the meetings of the Chamber of Commerce. Be there Monday night. Let us all co-operate.

Here is a suggested improvement that the county and city should hasten. Take the Rock Creek bridge and put it across the Nehalem river at Third street and put in a wider bridge where it came from. Grade Third and it will be rocked free. Open it up to the river; across the river we have the assurance of a hundred new houses besides opening up all that country through from the Beaver Creek district. This is a needed and urgent piece of work to benefit Columbia County, Vernonia, our business men, the mill people and all tax payers. Can't it be done this spring, and early.

Plans are being made for hard surfacing all the streets and alleys and building hardsurfaced side walks, garage entrances, etc. in this modern residence section. The houses being built are to be occupied by employees of the operating organization of the company but no plans as yet have been made for any but department heads and a few other employees who are to be permanently connected with the company. It is expected that the majority of the employees of this company will live in the town of Vernonia or own their own homes in or near the city therefore this company does not plan to build houses to accommodate but a few of the many men who will be employed on the big lumber manufacturing plant.

The Gilby Motor Co., has taken over the Vernonia Garage, now being in charge. During my years of business in Vernonia, the entire time has been pleasant and agreeable to all who have had occasion to patronize the business. I will for a time be with the new management, and bespeak for them a good business, assuring you that they are worthy and will merit your continued patronage. Thanking all my customers for past favors, and hoping to meet you at the same location. Very truly G. R. Mills.

### TWENTY PER CENT ON INVESTMENT FAIR PREDICTION

It is certainly queer how people and companies will spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in cities all around us for a hotel, when \$75,000 in Vernonia would bring wonderful eye-opening returns. Even down to Wheeler they are building a modern fire-proof hotel with three or four store rooms on the first floor. Vernonia is the best location in the state of Oregon or the whole northwest for a 75 room hotel with stores, barber shop and dining room on the first floor.

The Vernonia Mercantile Co. is now owned by Mr. Gilchrist, he having purchased Mr. Detrow's interest. This is one of the good grocery stores of the city, and the proprietor knows how to run an up-to-date establishment. Here's predicting and hoping for its success.

### FUNERAL OF JOHN PRINGLE HELD SUNDAY

**Mr. Pringle Was Killed Thursday at Inman-Pulsen Camp By Swinging Log**

Last Thursday evening word came to Vernonia that John Pringle had been hurt while at work at the Inman-Pulsen camp, which caused his death before help could get him to town. John was a "loader", and a large swinging log caught him at the hips. He died on the way to Vernonia. The funeral services were held at the church Sunday and the burial ceremony at the Vernonia cemetery. Rev. Gressman preached an excellent sermon. The church was not large enough to hold the crowd in attendance. John Robert Pringle was born at the Pringle home near Vernonia on December 31, 1898. He served in the Navy during the World War, and made several trips across the ocean. He died March 13, 1924. Besides the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Pringle, there remains three sisters and two brothers to mourn his departure. Vernonia and the entire Nehalem valley extend sympathy to these well known neighbors in their hour of bereavement. The floral offerings at the funeral were many and beautiful.

### IMPROVEMENT NEEDED NOW FOR CITY EXPANSION AND TO SAVE BRIDGE STREET

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### CONTROLLING THE YOUNG CROWD

A girl appeared at a dance in another city one night recently in a dress that aroused comment on account of its extreme décolleté cut. Some of the parents spoke to the mother, asserting that she ought not to have let her daughter come in such attire or lack of the same. She replied that she could not help it as the girl was bound to do just as she pleased, although apparently she was under age as yet.

Men who own automobiles often complain that their boys drive their cars in a way that the fathers do not at all approve. They talk and talk to them, but it has no effect.

The complaint is made that many very young people are drinking heavily. But if you inquire as to who was to blame, people would say that in many cases the fathers and mothers are at fault, since all the time they are supplying illegally obtained liquor in their own homes.

Many such instances raise the question as to how far parents are losing their grip on the younger generation, which in many ways is showing a degree of independence that often runs into disaster.

It is very difficult to establish control over young people of the 18 to 20 age, when for years these young people have been doing just what they wanted to. The time for a show down was some years earlier. Many of the young people of the 18 to 20 age have greater self control and experience than their fathers and mothers had at that age, and are better fitted to take care of themselves.

But it would be generally felt by careful parents that the young crowd are slipping out from parental control much too young. The time at about 14 to 16 is a critical one. If the children establish their independence then, they are too immature to realize the perils they confront and are likely to come to grief.—Beaverton Times.

### NEW WAY TO KEEP THE MONKEYS WARM

If you can't do it any other way, try electricity.

That is getting to be a pretty safe slogan to follow these days.

For example, the monkeys in Lincoln Park zoo, in Oklahoma, have provided a delicate problem for the zoo keepers for some time, but now a happy solution has been reached. They are to be kept warm by electric heat through the installation of a battery of electric heaters in the cages. It is the best and safest heat for this purpose because the monkey can't monkey with it.

Frak Mellis and family of Mist, attended church services here Sunday evening.

### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Meetings of the Christian church will be held next Sunday morning and evening at the high school auditorium. Bible school assembling at 10 a. m. and a place for everyone. Preaching at 11, the subject being: "The Lost Christ".

Evening services at 7:30. The sermon will be on the topic: "The Greatest Danger of the Age." Splendid singing and special music at every service. Everybody invited. W. A. Gressman, minister.

### GET BUSY NOW

The Registration Books in Vernonia close April 15. You can register now any Tuesday and Wednesday evening in the basement of the High school. Better do it before you forget it. After April 15 it will be too late and we will all want to vote at the May Primaries. Register now.

We hear that L. H. Detrow has purchased the confectionery store, "The Betty Jane" of Mr. C. R. Coyle. This popular soft drink parlor and lunch room is centrally located. Mr. and Mrs. Detrow are well liked by hundreds of friends in the community, and they will certainly do a splendid business in this line.

A. L. Lullander, of Portland, has purchased the W. Martineau Jewelry Store, and takes charge Saturday. Mr. Lullander is very highly recommended as a jeweler and watch maker, and will handle nothing but absolutely good goods. He intends making it a modern jewelry store, and will be open evenings for the convenience of the public.

Leroy Page is convalescing from his recent illness.

Mrs. Rhoda Hall is visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. J. Cline.

Jack Kelly and wife, of Portland, are visiting W. L. Hall and family of this place.

Mrs. Ollie Roberts is in Portland with her daughter, Mrs. Dawd, who is there in the hospital.

Mr. Earl Condit called at the home of Henry Hall Monday evening.

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass and Sermon on the third Sunday of each month, at 11:30 a. m. Week day communion Mass to be announced. Jos. P. Clancy, Pastor.