

The Vernonia Eagle

Issued every Thursday \$2 per year in Advance

Entered as Second Class Matter, August 4, 1922 at the Post Office at Vernonia, Oregon, under the Act of March 3, 1879

MARK E. MOE, Editor

SPORTSMANSHIP DEMONSTRATED

Vernonia high school lost the county championship in basketball to Clatskanie in the latter's gymnasium Friday night by a close score. They went down playing the game and played it hard. The loss was a great disappointment to the numerous Vernonia townspeople and school students who journeyed to that place to support the local quintet. It was the first game they had lost since playing the first league game of the season, when St. Helens won by one point.

Whether Clatskanie's star man was unusually lucky that night, or whether Vernonia's team had an "off" night is useless to discuss, since alibis will not help the situation any. A fact worth mentioning, however, is the good sportsmanship displayed by the team and in fact all of the Vernonia folk who attended the game.

That teams sometimes play contrary to their usual form was demonstrated last week, when the Oregon Agricultural college quintet, who have lost to nearly every team in the conference, defeated the University of Washington and then U. of W. in turn defeated the University of Oregon, who had already clinched the conference championship. The Vernonia team is but three years old, and really quite young to aspire to championship honors, which is that much more credit to Coach Austin for having nearly attained them.

So, Vernonia high school better luck next year, and the town thanks you for having shown them a straightforward playing-of-the-game basketball season that has indeed been a pleasure to watch. We have plenty of confidence that you will win the second third of that silver football next fall.

THE MOVING SEASON

It is estimated that 25 families in Vernonia will have changed their habitations when the moving season is ended. This is a sufficient volume of shifting of residence to have an appreciable effect on the community.

Moving is expensive. There is a saying that three moves are equal to a fire. That is, in changing residence three times one loses as much as one would were household goods consumed. Yet by no means are all changes unprofitable. Some move from rented quarters into homes they have bought. That is advantageous. Others move from old houses into better ones. That denotes prosperity. Of course moving is dictated by a great variety of reasons.

This year apparently there is not the scarcity of quarters that prevailed for several years. There has been a great amount of new construction and as a result the advertisements of property for rent have been numerous. This is to the advantage of renters in that it gives them choice. However, there is no definite indication that the increase of habitations has operated to reduce rents, at least not materially. The cost of building is such that in new structures low rates cannot be hoped for if the property is to return a profit on the investment.

The situation is such as to offer opportunity for relieving much of the congestion which prevailed during and after the war. The only difficulty in securing comfortable and sanitary places of residence now lie in ability to meet the terms.

HAND CLASPS

Nothing so eloquently reveals character as the hand-clasp. One may train his voice to express courage and cordiality unpossessed; one may acquire a pokerface; one may feign pleasure at meeting and displeasure at parting; but the offered hand neither conceals nor deceives. A blind man deaf and dumb from birth, can read this message of the hand.

It is a strong hand that functions with the irresistible determination of a vise? If it is, it belongs to a he-man, a go-getter, or to a true friend. Its warm and sturdy clasp belongs to a frank countenance and a feeling heart.

Is it a hand that gives a quick, slight pressure and at once liberates itself? That sort belong to the busy man and is born of independence and individualism.

Is it a limp hand? Then it belongs to a limp man, to one who is too tired to be interested in persons and things. To him hand shaking is an unnecessary formality in which no energy should be wasted.

Is it a lingering hand which caresses rather than clasps and which refuses to liberate its prey, is it a predatory hand, until it has accomplished its purpose? This is the practiced hand-clasp of the politician, the swindler and the cheat. It belongs to the man with a "mission" or a "message."

Grasp the hands of those you would have show their "hand."

BETTER NOT SAY IT.

Bad news travels faster than good news. There is an old saying, "No news is good news." Let a man be converted at a church service and there is not much of a stir, but let a resident be convicted of crime and the news leaps by word of mouth from one end of the community to the other.

How thoughtlessly unkind we sometimes are when acquaintances of ours suffer misfortune! Troubles are bound to come to us all in some shape or form, and what we say about others today may apply to us tomorrow. News is no respecter of persons.

We are prone to consider the ways of others not our ways when we should be watching our own step. What folks say of one another sometimes hurts more than anything they could have done. News, either good or bad, grows and becomes exaggerated and distorted with peddling. When the news is good it makes no material difference how it is exaggerated or distorted, it can never do anyone positive harm. But bad news given wings, may bring sorrow and ruin upon people who certainly are not deserving of a punishment beyond the penalty of their mistake.

More charity for others will mean charity for ourselves and we will gradually come to take a keener delight in reporting something good of some person than something bad. Good is constructive, bad is destructive. Just before you are about to let out a bit of "bad news," stop and think a moment. See if you can't think of something good to say in place of it. The chances are ten to one that you can and that you will.

YOUR TOWN AND YOU

Your town boosts you. Why not do as well by the town as it does by you? No citizen is so powerful, none so humble, but what the town is an aid to him in some way or other.

The food that he eats, the clothes he wears, the recreation and amusement that he enjoys, all originate in the town, because the money with which they are procured is made there.

When a fellow boosts his own town he does not stop there. He is performing an act that improves his own condition, for every good word and every good deed has its elevating influence.

A few people are always home town boosters. They accomplish much in the way of community betterment, and this improves the condition of not only themselves, but also of those who do no boosting at all.

If every citizen would constitute himself a home town booster the result collectively would be many times as great, and opportunities for self improvement would be more numerous.

Think it over in your odd moments. Then get into the boost wagon and hit the pace.

POLICE PROTECTION

After the robbery of the Vernonia Billiards Saturday morning a few local merchants and others have argued that added police protection is necessary in Vernonia for those who choose to appropriate other folks property for value not given. A plan to solicit for donations to pay a night watchman was suggested, but an adequate means of collection was not provided, and the burden of paying would fall on too few.

Until the budget committee makes provisions for paying a night watchman out of the city taxes, it is unlikely that the council can figure out a way of paying that expense out of an already limited general fund. The present marshal brings in much more income in fines than his salary amounts to. When it is certain an added marshal could do as well, then it is time to hire him. Meanwhile, Vernonia is not very flush, financially.

OREGON LEGISLATURE ENDS LONG SESSION

Taxation Program Cause of Holdover of Assembly For Additional Week.

Senate Refuses to Reconsider Tithing Bill—People to Vote on Income Tax and 8 Per Cent Tax Limitation Amendment — Motor Legislation Mostly Remedial—New State Office Building Provided For.

Salem.—The thirty-fourth assembly of the state legislature adjourned after a session extending a week beyond the 40-day constitutional period. The extended session was occasioned by failure of the senate to pass the tithing bill, an important feature of the governor's taxation program.

Following the defeat of the tithing bill in the senate various taxation and revenue measures were proposed, but they were rejected by the administration and an effort made to have the senate reconsider and pass the bill without amendment. All efforts to reach an agreement between the senate and the governor failed and a motion to reconsider in the senate was defeated. The vote stood 17 for reconsideration and 13 against. The roll showed:

Yes—Batley, Banks, Butler, Carner, Davis, Dunn, Eddy, Elliott, Hunter, Kiddle, Mann, Marks, Miller, Norblad, Staples and President Corbett.

No—Beals, Brown, Butt, Dunne, Hall, Mrs. Jones, Joseph, Klepper, Moser, Reynolds, Strayer and Upton.

Finance Left in Chaotic Condition. The legislature adjourned without passing the tithing bill, thus leaving the state's finances in a more or less chaotic condition.

When the legislature assembled it was faced with a deficit of approximately \$1,000,000 which was increased to \$2,222,222 by appropriations during the session. The governor planned to meet the deficit with a state income tax projected to yield \$2,000,000 and the tithing bill, which took a percentage from various state boards and commissions, thus providing an additional \$1,000,000.

The legislature passed the income tax, but this must be submitted to the people at a special election to be held June 22. For all practical purposes the legislature really left the state's financial condition just where it was at the beginning of the session.

Governor Must Use Veto. The legislature having voted numerous appropriations without providing funds to meet them it is apparent that it will be necessary for the governor to make liberal use of his veto power if the deficit is to be reduced to a point where it does not exceed the anticipated revenues.

As a result of the session, so far as finance is concerned, in addition to the income tax, there will be submitted to the people at the special election a proposed amendment to the 8 percent tax limitation which would fix the tax levying "base," so far as the state is concerned at \$3,500,000, plus 8 percent, or \$3,710,000 for the tax levy of 1928 and thereafter.

Aside from the tithing bill, everything that Governor Patterson suggested that he wanted was promptly accorded him. Not one of his vetoes was overridden.

Will Add to Taxable Wealth. One accomplishment of the whole session was the passage of an act that it is expected will add to the taxable wealth of the state and serve in the end to reduce property levies. This was a house bill designed to clothe the state tax commission with supervisory and directive powers, over the county assessors and boards of equalization; and giving them authority to add to the tax rolls a great deal of property that hitherto has escaped.

The administration's budget bill which was passed, makes the governor the budget making officer of the state with special machinery operating under a budget master to be appointed by the chief executive.

It is claimed for the law that when the coming legislature meets, two years from now, the ways and means committees of the senate and house will find a close-pared state budget of expenses which will represent the bare bone requirements of the state government as a whole, beyond which the committee will not be allowed to go.

It makes the board of control the central purchasing agency for all state boards and departments.

Numerous amendments were made to the water code, all tending to increase the duties and authority of the state engineer.

Motor vehicle legislation enacted was almost entirely of a remedial character, with the certificate of title law, light law and the so-called "peddler" tax amended. Changes in title and light laws were in the direction of uniformity, following closely the recommendations of the Hoover conference, and presented by the Oregon automotive conference.

Among the new rules of the road is

an amendment which permits a speed of 25 miles an hour on the highways with a maximum of 20 miles in incorporated cities and towns.

Another will require all vehicles to come to a full stop when entering up on a primary state highway. Under the present law vehicles are required to slow down to a speed of five miles an hour before entering primary highways, but this rule has been found hard to enforce.

Other road and motor vehicle legislation is summarized as follows:

House bill No. 484 follows the Hoover code and provides a load limit of 8000 pounds on each axle of a motor truck when the axles are spaced less than eight feet apart and which will prevent carrying excessive loads on six wheel motor trucks.

House bill No. 493 provides that the "acceptance" of a free ride as a guest in a motor vehicle shall be presumed a waiver of said guest of liability for accidental injury caused by owner or driver of such motor vehicle.

The public service commission has been given definite jurisdiction over another forty-five vehicles.

Changes in the rules of the road do not become effective for 90 days, for the reason that the amendments to the present laws did not carry an emergency clause.

Much Constructive Irrigation Work. Irrigation experts in the house and senate contended that this session has done more of constructive work for irrigation than any previous session.

Driftly, the desert land board has been abolished, and irrigation administration put under the control of a new body, the state reclamation commission, consisting of the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer, with the state engineer as the secretary of the commission.

Owners of property have been given the right to pay off their liens and close their own property. No change was made in the certification law, and some in the interest guaranty law, except to provide that in the future irrigation bonds would not be a general obligation of the state.

Head holders and settlers still will have to get together for the composition of their differences, but machinery has been provided by which facts and values may be determined and refunding plans carried out.

Senate bill 74, by Eddy, relieves the counties from co-operation on the maintenance of state highways and requires that all maintenance expense be met from the state highway fund. Since all state highways have been maintained by the state without co-operation from the counties for several years, this legislation will not cause added expense to the state highway fund.

Requires Filing on Underground Water. A new departure in Oregon, but on lines similar to those which have prevailed in California for several years, is the measure to provide for appropriation for beneficial use of the underground waters of the state by filing thereon in manner somewhat similar to the filing on surface waters.

Filings may be made on these underground waters for irrigation purposes, but such filings are to be made contingent upon use of the waters in an economical beneficial manner, and the state engineer shall have the power to fix the maximum amount which may be used per acre of land each season.

It is provided that artesian wells must have suitable means for closing and conserving the flow when not actually needed or put to beneficial use.

Legislation providing for a new state office building was passed. The bill provides that the state treasurer may borrow from the state industrial accident commission funds up to \$600,000 to finance the building, at the rate of \$60,000 a year and interest of 4 1/2 percent. It is planned to have the building under way this year.

A measure was passed which would make the public service commissioners appointees of the governor. Under the present law, they are elected by the people.

State Traffic Force Increased. A house bill that would increase the state traffic officer personnel and build it up into a constabulary force passed.

The purpose is to increase efficiency of the traffic department and add to the number of state officers on the roads. It gives authority for expenditure of about \$49,000 in increased and added salaries and equipment.

Senator Joseph's bill that would make insanity legal cause for divorce was killed in the house.

A bill passed which provides for salaries of not to exceed \$3000 per year for the private secretary to the governor, deputy secretary of state and deputy state treasurer and \$4000 a year for the state tax commissioner.

The salaries of the first three officials are to be fixed by the board of control up to the maximum fixed by the bill and the salary of the tax commissioner is to be fixed by the tax commission.

The senate, by an overwhelming majority, rejected a house joint resolution, submitting to the voters of the state a constitutional amendment providing for a divided legislative session.

Tell us a news item and we will tell the public. Drop it in the box outside the door, or phone at your convenience.

Lodge Directory

W.O.W. Buxton camp No. 655 meets every Monday night at seven thirty at the Grange Hall. Visiting members welcome.

C. A. BARNES C.C.
C. C. DUSTEN CLERK.

Vernonia Lodge, No. 184 A. F. & A. M., meets at Grange Hall every Second and Fourth Thursday nights. K. A. McNeill, Secretary. Visitors Welcome

I. O. O. F.—VERNONIA LODGE, No. 245, meets every Tuesday night at 8:00 o'clock, in Grange Hall

O. E. Enstrum, N.G.
G. B. Smith, Sec'y.

Vernonia Post 119, American Legion. Meets second and fourth Tuesdays each month, 7:30 p.m. H. E. McGraw, Commander. Lee Schwab, Adj.

American Legion Auxiliary Meets first and third Mondays of each month at Legion hall, 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Mrs. H. E. McGraw, President. Mrs. Earl Washburn, Secretary.

Nehalem Chapter 153, O. E. S. Regular communication first and third Wednesdays of each month. All visiting sisters and brothers welcome. Bessie Tapp, W. M. Leona McGraw, Secretary.

VERNONIA GRANGE

The Vernonia Grange meets on the second Saturday of every month at 7:30 P. M. Any members of the Grange living in or near Vernonia or visiting in the community, are cordially invited to attend. Mrs. Minnie Malmsten, Secretary

MOUNTAIN HEART

REBECCA LODGE No. 243, I.O.O.F. Meets every second and Fourth Thursdays in Grange Hall—Vernonia. Visitors always welcome. Mrs. Edna Kilby, N. G. Mrs. IRENE SPENCER, Sec'y

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