

# Vernonia Eagle

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## Council Has Short Session

### Petition Is Granted To Improve East Side Streets

### Change Park Board Meeting

### City To Buy Three Street Intersection Buttons With Reflectors

The city council enjoyed the shortest session of the year Monday night, with all present except Ray Emmott, who was out of town. A petition to improve a number of streets on the east side was read and approved. The streets are to be graded and surfaced with crushed rock and gravel. Since George McGee has left, the city is without an engineer. It is necessary that a licensed engineer make an estimate on the street work. The council voted to secure a preliminary estimate and County Roadmaster Hall will be asked to make the survey. If his services cannot be secured it will be necessary to find another engineer.

A petition was presented by the park board asking that the meeting night of the board be changed in the ordinance from Tuesday night to the first Wednesday night of each month. The change was made by the council.

A motion was made that a resolution be drawn by the city attorney and presented at the next meeting that would require fire hazards to be cleared away. The resolution will be aimed particularly burned buildings that are of no use and are a menace to nearby structures as well as giving an unsightly appearance to the city.

Marshal Kelly reported that the city needs good street intersection buttons to prevent accidents. Because of short left-hand turns made by some drivers on account of the absence of street intersection markers, and the fact that every week there are taken in violations will more than pay the cost of the buttons, according to Marshal Kelly. It was decided to purchase three second-hand buttons, with red reflectors, from the city of Portland where they are being replaced with stop-and-go signs, and put them on Bridge street at the following intersections: Weed avenue, Third street and Second street.

## Grade Schools Hold Open House April 8.

The Washington and Lincoln grade schools of Vernonia will hold an open house Friday, April 8, for any visitors who are interested in the pupils' work, when parents and others are invited to view the exhibits of work and the classes being conducted.

Principal O. A. Anderson says, "You are welcome to come and visit each room, listen to the classes you are most interested in, and see each child's work. We expect you. Remember, April 8, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m."

### ALICE PEARL CLARK

Alice Pearl Lake was born in Kentland, Indiana, December 25, 1883. She came west with her parents, locating at Stayton, Oregon, in 1895. They lived in the west but one year and then returned east. They returned to Oregon in 1898, where she has resided since.

In October, 1903, she was married to Jessie Martin, to this union four children were born. May 13, 1915, she was married to W. Weaver Clark. To this union three children were born.

In May, 1922, the family moved to Vernonia where they continued to live. She became ill March 3 with influenza, which developed into pneumonia and acute Bright's disease. She passed away on the morning of March 17.

She leaves to mourn her departure, her husband, Weaver Clark; and seven children: Kenneth Martin, Clare Martin, Velma Martin, Elinor Martin, Dale Clark, Kyle Clark and little baby Keith W. Clark, besides many other relatives and friends.

Mrs. Clark was a member of the Evangelical church.

## Tourists Throng Cuban Metropolis

(By A. D. Moe)

Havana, Cuba, Feb. 27, 1927. We were very fortunate in having good weather in crossing over from Key West to Havana. The past week in Miami had been stormy and has been followed by calm slightly cooler weather. The trip across was delightful and we did not notice anyone sick. About half way across we left the Atlantic and entered the Gulf stream, about 35 miles wide at this point, the water a dark blue and warm. The 90 miles of water took seven hours to cross from the time we left Key West until we arrived in quarantine in Havana harbor.

About an hour before we landed the outline of the Cuban hills could be seen, and 30 minutes later the buildings of Havana loomed up, with Moro castle an outstanding mark at the entrance to the harbor. The formalities of quarantine and passed through the Custom house were quickly dispatched and we were met by automobiles and conveyed rapidly through the narrow streets to our hotel, arriving shortly after 4 o'clock. The balance of the afternoon we spent in a short walk to Central Park, a large open plaza in the center of the business district. Sitting on the park benches, shaded by the tall buildings, we watched the throngs and listened to the Spanish conversations on all sides. Old woman selling lottery tickets and Chinese peddling peanuts wandered around the park. Several of them addressed us in Spanish, probably thinking I was a Cuban, as I have obtained a real tropical tan, but I had to tell, "No saby." The guide at the hotel told us if we got lost to inquire of a cop with a white helmet, as he could speak English, or if unable to find one, to give a hotel card to a taxi driver, who would take us back for 20 centavos. We noted several landmarks on our way and got back without any trouble. It was not long, however, before we learned the way around the shopping district without any trouble.

In the evening we took a trip with a party to see some of the night life, stopping at a Chinese theatre for a little while, then going out 12 miles to the Casino, the Monte Carlo of Havana. No one is admitted there to play without being in full dress, but tourists are allowed in with guides in ordinary dress. However, we were told after reaching the place that it was so crowded that we would have to come another time, so we passed it up. Coming back we stopped at a cabaret and watched the dancing, getting back to the hotel after midnight.

The hurricane in October did about as much damage in Havana to trees and vegetation as the September storm in Florida, but not many buildings were wrecked. Past experience has taught them how to build. So we were disappointed in not seeing more tropical flowers and shubbery. About the only tall trees standing are Royal palms and coconuts, although much of the fruit of the latter was blown off. Royal palms are native to the country and grow to perfection here. The October storm broke some of the water mains, and they are still rebuilding them. Thursday one of the large conduits broke again and the city was without drinking water until Saturday, except what was brought in. Our hotel was without water for drinking for a day, but we could get plenty of mineral water, wines and liquors, so the hotel did not worry.

Thursday was a holiday, so business houses were closed. Friday morning we took in Moro castle and Cabanas fortress, a very interesting trip. We were shown where the Maine was sunk and taken all through the castle, which is 300 years old, and shown the historic spots, our guide giving a very comprehensive and complete history of the place. The fortress is now used only as a place for sight seeing, with part of it a training camp for the navy. Cabanas fortress is but a short distance away, and part of this is used as a federal prison, containing about 200 convicts, with other quarters as places of residence for officers. We passed through a long tunnel leading to dungeons, were shown where political prisoners during the reign of Spain were either locked in dungeons.

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## Women's Relief Corps Postpones Dinner To Judson Weed's Birthday

The observance of the ninth anniversary dinner by the Vernonia Women's Relief corps has been postponed from March 29 to Judson Weed's birthday on April 14 at the Weed home, it was decided at the meeting of the corps held in the grange hall Friday. All charter members are requested to attend the dinner, which will be a pot lunch. Cars will leave the bank at 10:30 a. m.

An all-day meeting was held Friday over which Nannie B. Hall, senior vice-president presided in the absence of the president, Gladys Smith. Five new members were initiated. An excellent dinner was served.

## Advices Local Folk To Stay In Vernonia

Ashland, Oregon, March 14, 1927. To the Editor. Of my many acquaintances in Vernonia there are several who I count as close friends. I know of a few of your splendid citizens who have voiced their intention of, some time, locating in Southern Oregon. I wish to state to them the wisdom of first thinking it over very seriously. Take it from one who has traveled over most of Oregon, that at the present time, Vernonia is the best city they can find, for it's size in the line of business. In southern Oregon there is only one city and that is Medford. Medford is a very desirable place to live. All other near by towns go to Medford to trade on account of the Medford business men being good advertisers and they certainly back their advertising up with splendid stocks and fair prices. They are all boosters and full of pep. Ashland is slow, contented and not growing in the least. Sleepy, old, cement covered Gold Hill is a better town for business, next to the best in Jackson county. Medford has everything needed and may offer some good business opportunities if the stranger comes with unlimited capital and is prepared to stay with it a year for nothing in order to get acquainted and work up a business. If it is a job one wants, he may get it in or out of Medford, but the chances are as good in Vernonia as here. Medford has a good climate, but it rains all winter as much as it does in Vernonia, and I have spent more for wood in two months than I would spend all winter in Vernonia.

To the members of the Harding Lodge K. P. is entitled flowers for their sociability. They are not bashful to meet a stranger and at least offer a hand occasionally. I find more of this sociability and welcome in N. W. Oregon than I do in southern Oregon. I like it here, like Medford, but it certainly takes time and lots of money to get established, and the grand scenery and perfect roads make a life of pleasure enjoyable, if one can afford it. Klamath Falls, I was there last week, is a mighty good town to stay away from. It is crowded, is rushing, is building fast, but no place for one with only a few hundred dollars. It is overdone; too many stores and 2000 idle men at present, is my estimation of a day's observation and talk with their business men. No openings there, unless it would be for a bootlegger.

PAUL ROBINSON.

## Shower Given Mrs. Helen Fields of Treharne Friday

A miscellaneous shower was given in the Treharne district Friday on Mrs. Helen Fields at the home of her mother, Mrs. Arthur Koplin. Light refreshments were served and a general good time enjoyed. Those attending were:

Mrs. Paul Gilbertson, Mrs. Helen Voitech, Mrs. Bettie Johnson, Mrs. Edith Pierce, Mrs. Beulah Basington, Mrs. Olga Cook, Mrs. L. M. Smith, Mrs. Wm. Voshell, Mrs. Henry Beaver, Mrs. M. V. Thorp, Mrs. Carl Wiencke, Mrs. Lena Beaver, Mrs. H. W. Pitrc, Mrs. Gladys Morton, Mrs. Helen Patterson, Mrs. S. Baker, Mrs. J. A. Lindsay, Mrs. Anna Hodge, Mrs. Ora Glassner.

### Webster-Mawhinney

Hilda Webster became the bride of Ed. Mawhinney at Vancouver, Wash., March 14 at 3 p. m. The young couple, who will reside in Vernonia, are well known locally. Mr. Mawhinney is one of the drivers on the local stage line.

## American Legion To Build New Home This Year, Planned

Having already decided to build a permanent home for Vernonia American Legion, the local post, after making a detailed investigation, decided to construct an inexpensive club house mainly for the purpose of holding meetings that would reduce the overhead expenses to a minimum. A fund of several hundred dollars already exists for this purpose and as soon as practical a means of financing the rest of it will be worked out and construction started.

More than 70 were present at the meeting held in the Legion hall on Tuesday night, which was considered exceptionally good. The membership campaign is on in full swing, closing at the end of this month, and the local post is anxious to retain the cups won last year for the greatest membership percentage increase in both the district and state. It is also said that M. E. Carkin has a better chance of winning the trophy for personal membership record in the state this year.

More than \$100 was turned in to the building fund Tuesday night by the legionnaires of West Timber, who sponsored a dance at that place Saturday. The local post now has about 20 members in West Timber. H. C. Zimmerman of that place was elected second vice-commander of Vernonia post Tuesday night in recognition of his services in promoting the interests of the local post in that vicinity.

A feature of the evening was the interruption of regular business by M. E. (Jack) Carkin, whose "black" eye and disheveled condition, accompanied by a rope around his candidate's neck, betrayed the fact that he "brings 'em in" in spite of opposition.

### Legion Show Monday.

E. H. (Skinny) Washburn, in charge of the Legion vaudeville show, to be presented at the Majestic theatre Monday, reported that a complete and finished production will be presented Monday, with two performances that evening. He stated that many should plan to attend the second show, since tickets enough for the first were already sold out. Most of the program is said to be of a comical nature, and their money's worth of enjoyment is promised all who attend. Dr. Geo. Pasto is directing the production.

### SCHOOL NEWS

#### Sophomores.

Last week Bob Whitsell had to stay home from school on account of the mumps.

Four sophomores were among the group of honor students whose pictures the photographer took last week.

In Miss Goodin's class the sophomores have just finished Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities." The story was said to have been enjoyed very much on account of the vivid pictures and exciting action.

The French class is nearly through with the text, which should be covered in one year. Stories from a French reader will be taken up next.

"Caesar must have been a pretty good general," say the Caesar students. But sometimes they wish he would get defeated, just one good defeat. There is only one of his campaigns left to translate.

Kathryn Hoffman returned to school Monday after a short illness.

Lois Engen is back in school after a few weeks sickness of the mumps.

Marvin Hult is in school again after a few weeks sickness.

Norma and Irene Anderson have come back to school after having the mumps.

Eva and Edward Roles are absent from the junior class on account of sickness. Eva is the school artist and has completed her work in spite of her confinement.

After the civics class has given its talks all the members of the faculty will deliver a 10- to 15-minute talk to the senior class.

The seniors are practicing their play, "Cyclone Sally," and will give the performance some time in April. Also the junior prom will be held in the near future.

The athletes turned out for a meeting and a line-up was obtained on the track program. Practice will start next week.

## Slow Time Made In Pigeon Contest Flight

The two pigeons which flew from Vernonia to Portland in the Sperry flour guessing contest flight Thursday made slow time due to adverse weather conditions. They required three hours, 20 minutes and 15 seconds to reach Portland. Only two of the pigeons brought here to fly were released. The rest were said to be in improper condition for the trip. The winners and the guessers they made at local stores were as follows:

People's store: Dennis Davis, 69 min. 11 sec.; Nessene Ellis, 68 min. 11 sec.; Mrs. Ruth Raynor, 68 min. 7 sec.; Dennis Davis, 67 min. 8 sec.; Mrs. J. C. Moore, 60 min.

King's grocery: L. L. Morris, 110 minutes.; Mrs. Van Doren, 72 min. 40 sec.; Dora King, 70 min. 20 sec.; John Wardle, 70 min.

Miller's: Mrs. Frank Smith, 98 min. 10 sec.; Mrs. Essie Nance, 70 min. 1.5 sec.; J. W. Barker, 74 min. 10 sec.; Charlotte Brady, 61 min.; R. A. Heacock, 60 min. 30 sec.

Nehalem market: Mrs. J. E. Tapp, 3 hrs. 30 min. 26 sec.; Mrs. J. E. Scott, 90 min. 40 sec.; N. F. Brown, 53 min. 10 sec.; G. T. Blankenship, 51 min. 3 sec.; Mrs. Glassness, 50 min. 30 sec.; S. A. Morton, 50 min. 2 sec.; G. T. Blankenship, 50 min.

### Raymond Hall Wins Pigeons.

Raymond Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Evan Hall and a pupil in the second grade of the Vernonia school made the closest guess as to the time of the flight of six carrier pigeons from the Miller Mercantile company store to the Sperry Flour company in Portland March 3.

The exact time of the flight was 63 minutes and 41 seconds. Raymond Hall's guess was 63 minutes and 45 seconds. Another close guess was made by Edward Oberst, who guessed 63 minutes, 35 seconds. All the pupils in the grade schools were given an opportunity to submit guesses as to the time of the flight.

The winner of the contest will be given a pair of carrier pigeons by the Sperry Flour company. W. J. Kelly, city marshal. Mr. Kelly judge of this contest. Mr. Kelly also gave a prize to each of the two boys making the nearest guesses.

## Cultures For Legumes Go To Oregon Farmers

Legumes unless supplied with certain types of bacteria do not serve their purpose in crop rotation, since they rob the soil of fertility just as grain. The whole system of permanent agriculture is based on leguminous crops to build up soil fertility. This is defeated in soil lacking fertility to start with unless bacteria are supplied in cultures. Such cultures are prepared in vast quantities by the experiment station and sent to western Oregon farmers.

"Thousands of cultures are sent out every year," says W. V. Halverson of the department. "All are tested out on the plants for which they are intended to be used. Results are carefully checked before these cultures are used to prepare material to make the inoculation. Bacteria have to be faultless before we know that they will give the desired results when the farmer gets them."

"This requires growing the plants under controlled conditions in the laboratory, and actually producing nodules on controlled plants with the cultures. Many carefully planned tests are made to be sure that no other bacteria are present to injure their efficiency."

In these tests the plants are supplied with no nitrogen but must rely altogether on the culture for the nitrogen essential to growth. Any plant that does not have the bacteria dies showing all the effects of nitrogen starvation, while those inoculated grow luxuriously.

About the same thing happened in the field. If no bacteria are present the seed makes germination and only slow, spindling growth. Occasional plants in the same field when they happen to be inoculated make thrifty growth. Adequate supply of bacteria in the right form may be counted on to make the entire field thrifty. The station sells its cultures at 50 cents a bottle, which is enough to inoculate two acres.

Artificial bacteria must be used to start alfalfa and sweet clover in the Willamette valley, it has been found. They are also essential to start clover and the vetches on fields clean cultivated or run to cereals for several years.

## Grade Schools Are Crowded

### Principal Anderson Is Working For Addition

### Using Basement Rooms

### School District 47 Is By Far the Wealthiest In Columbia County

In response to repeated demands for better grade school facilities in Vernonia, particularly for the Washington school, the school board of district 47 are investigating the needs of the local school to determine what additions should be added to provide for the already over-crowded condition of the school and what will be necessary in the years to come.

At present two classrooms are in the basement of the Washington school where they were never intended to be on account of insufficient light and heat for those rooms. According to Principal O. A. Anderson it was impossible to heat these rooms above a temperature of 58 degrees during the cold weather recently passed even with the use of electric heaters.

Schools are required to have window space equal to from one-fifth to one-fourth of the floor space, these rooms have only about one-fifteenth, according to Principal Anderson. It is necessary to use electric lights all the time school is in session during cloudy weather.

There is also need for a gymnasium, in place of the play shed now in use and an auditorium to handle assemblies and the various gatherings held there from time to time. Four extra classrooms are needed at the present time according to Mr. Anderson, and he thinks it would not be unwise to build eight extra classrooms to accommodate the rapid growth of the school in the next few years.

The Vernonia school district has a valuation of \$3,476,205, which is greater than either St. Helens, Clatskanie and Rainier and nearly as great as the three combined. Less than one-eighth of the school taxes of the district are paid by Vernonia folk residing in the city limits, and it is the contention that now is the proper time to build, rather than wait two or three years and be forced to build and also pay higher taxes because of the decreased valuation due to the timber being cut. Needed improvements and their costs will be presented at the next meeting of the school board.

## Roads in Springtime Sometimes Dangerous

Spring driving requires its special precautions as well as winter car operation, but the motorist who has been forced to exercise restraint for the more severe months of the year may be inclined to ignore the need for further care. This point is raised by George O. Brandenburg, secretary of the Oregon State Motor association, who points out that under certain inevitable seasonal conditions, roads and streets in springtime can be just as treacherous as those of winter.

"The road that is dangerous in winter, because it is covered with ice or snow, may be just as much a menace to safety during the rainy spring months when a thin film of mud covers the highway," says Mr. Brandenburg.

"The American Automobile association, with which this club is affiliated in its far-reaching surveys into accident causes has found that the hard-surfaced highway which is lightly coated with mud is a fertile factor in producing mishaps. It has shown that the well-advised driver makes the necessary concessions to safety under such circumstances by recognizing the potential danger of the highway."

"It is well to remember that the ever-dangerous front-wheel skid, as well as the sliding of the rear wheels, is possible on road that lies beneath a thin film of mud."