

Vernonia Eagle

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Revision of Water Rates Considered

Special Tariff for Irrigation Use Referred to Committee

Discussion of reduction in water rates for purposes of irrigation during the summer months, and of readjustment of rates to apartment houses, occupied most of the attention of the city council at the regular meeting Monday night. No definite action was taken with regard to either, the questions being referred to the water committee, Councilmen Malmsten, Rogers and Johnson, for consideration and report.

The proposition to allow more water for the same money was suggested by E. W. Holtham, who was present in the audience. He did not advocate any lowering of the minimum rates, but explained that additional water for gardens and lawns could be supplied at practically no extra cost to the city, and many people would thus be encouraged to use water for irrigating purposes.

Claude Hillsberry, water superintendent, stated his opinion that the extra pumping required would cost the city five or six cents a thousand gallons.

Use of the diesel plant for pumping was suggested by Councilman Johnson, who believed that considerable money could be saved the city because of the favorable terms now obtainable from oil companies.

Apartment Question Raised

John Erickson appeared before the council and asked for revision of the water rates charged apartment houses. He stated that each owner had been compelled to put in a meter, but instead of being charged at meter rates for the water actually used, he is required to pay two dollars for each apartment. At present rentals the owner cannot charge enough to make the tenant pay this, he claimed, and it has to come out of his own pocket.

Park Board Appointed

Mayor Owens reappointed the present park board with the exception of F. E. Malmsten, now serving as councilman. J. B. Hair was named by the mayor for this place. The board now consists of R. M. Aldrich, chairman, C. F. Hieber, J. B. Hair, Matt Gibson and Mrs. Judd Greenman.

The park board is to meet with the city council April 5 in the city hall.

Mrs. E. S. Thompson was appointed a member of the library board in place of Mrs. Van Peebley, resigned.

HAND LABOR IS USED ON JOB

7,000 yards of fill adjoining the bridge over the Fishhawk near Birkenfeld are being put in by hand labor, according to County Commissioner T. B. Mills. This is being paid for out of the general road fund, he states, and will mean the distribution of \$1500 or \$1600 for two months. Registration for this work is with W. R. Johnson at Mist.

Emergency relief work under the county will continue according to need. Mr. Mills says, as about \$6,000 still remains of the amount budgeted for the purpose, \$10,000. State relief work ceases at the end of this month, according to a recent decision of the state highway commission.

Oregon State college students who arrived Wednesday to spend the spring vacation at their homes include Catherine Hoffman, Norman Green and Veldon Parker.

SEED LOANS ARE ADVOCATED AT C. C.

Only two applications had been turned in at the Bank of Vernonia for seed loans, reported Lester Sheeley at the chamber of commerce meeting Wednesday. It was apparent, he said, that the farmers do not understand the proposition, as the borrowing of government money at 5 1/2 per cent interest would put into use thousands of dollars in the Nehalem valley.

Instead of full payment, demanded after the sale of the crops this fall, as stated in the official circulars first received in Vernonia, Mr. Sheeley stated that the government has decided to allow three years for repayment, requiring the return of only one-third in November, 1932.

President J. E. Kerr appointed Mr. Sheeley, J. E. Tapp and Ray D. Fisher as a committee on publicity for seed loans.

Kent Elected Water Supt.

Walter Kent was elected water superintendent in place of Claude Hillsberry at an adjourned meeting of the city council Tuesday night. Mr. Hillsberry, who has been superintendent for a little over a year, tendered his resignation.

Revision of Ordinance 181 in accordance with the resolution passed at the meeting of the council March 16 was completed in its final form at this meeting. The revision stipulates a salary of recorder at \$80.00 a month, and changes the wording so that he is not responsible for delinquent as well as paid water accounts.

Request of the Nehalem Rod and Gun club for a five year's lease of ground in the city park for pheasant pens was discussed.

WALDPOR BUSY
Waldport is a busy place, reports Mrs. Lee Hall, former Riverview resident, who is here for a short visit. A great deal of building is going on there, she says, especially of summer homes for Portlanders, and a local mill has difficulty in turning out enough lumber to supply the demand.

Suggests Gas Mask For Use At Fires

Suggestion that the fire department purchase a gas mask and a contribution of \$25.00 towards such a fund was made Friday by Judge and Mrs. W. A. Harris. Their letter expressing their thanks to the department is as follows:

To the Officers and Members of Vernonia Volunteer Fire Dept. Gentlemen: We wish to thank you for the very efficient work performed by you upon two occasions when our property has been threatened by the demon Fire, and especially we wish to compliment you upon the very excellent record made by you in the fire in the hotel building on Rose avenue on the 17th day of March, 1932. I have been informed that the alarm was sent in at 3:18 p. m. and at 3:22 p. m. you had a stream of water playing upon the building, which is a time record hard to beat, as you had to make the run and to connect up and string out at least 350 feet of hose to reach the fire.

I would suggest that if the company was the owner of a gas mask so that one could enter the smoke to ascertain just where the fire was located it would be of big benefit in fighting any fire, and as a starter towards a fund for the purchase of one, I enclose my check for \$25.00 which I hope will be accepted in the spirit in which it is presented, for the best interests of the community.

Thanking you for past favors, wishing the company the best of success,

We are respectfully yours,

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Harris.

County Golf Association Lays Plans For Season

A trio of local golfers, Albert Childs, O. T. Bateman and F. D. Macpherson, attended a meeting of the Columbia County Golf association at St. Helens Sunday, March 20. Mr. Childs, who is president of the association, called the meeting of the three clubs in Columbia county which comprise the organization, to lay out and perfect plans for this coming season's play. The association was undertaken last year by golfers of St. Helens, Briarcliff and Vernonia courses, with the idea of promoting the game in Columbia county from every angle and after passing through a most successful season last year now enters upon what appears to be an even more prosperous summer for divot digging.

At the meeting it was agreed to hold the annual field day at the Briarcliff course and the county championship at St. Helens. Last year the championship tourney was held at the local course and there were over 60 entries with M. E. Uhlshoeffer winning by a close margin over O. T. Bateman. Hale Greenman was low medalist and a number of other local players won various flights and many prizes, all of which, from a Vernonia golfer's view, was as it should be, and they are again enthusiastically warming up their heavy shooting artillery for an assault upon the St. Helens course in May.

In the intercounty team mat-

ches fighting for the permanent possession of the big trophy cup, Vernonia gained the first leg on the bowl and this year will be out battling to retain their foothold and add another mark towards the three which gives final ownership of the coveted prize.

This year these cup matches will be played in a three-cornered manner, all three teams participating at the same time and with the first of the series to be played at Vernonia on Sunday, April 10. The next at Briarcliff on April 24 and the final one at St. Helens on May 1. Fifteen men teams will be the rule and the position in the favored circle will be governed by the "button" board, the operation of which is well under way and from appearances will this year prove a hot-bed of contention.

The 18-hole triangle affair listed for St. Helens on May 1 will also prove the qualifying round for the county championship and scores posted in this play will be used as the basis for the various flight entries. Needless to say, a number of golfers will be endeavoring with might and main to shoot real golf that day. The first elimination rounds will be played the same day and on the following Sunday, May 8, the second eliminations and semi-finals will be fought out over the same course. May 15 will see the championship decided and played according to where the final two contestants so desire.

Numerous other matches with various clubs in the state are being scheduled and from the way Secretary Walter Kerry's correspondence is piling up, Columbia county teams are a much desired opponent. One of the matches lined up includes a trip to the well known resort, Mt. Hood course, on July 10. Longview Country club, Astoria, Inverness, City View, Peninsula, Meadowbrook and others of Portland and vicinity are also listed, assuring the daisy knockers plenty of tough competition to while away their idle summer Sundays.

No dues will be collected from old association members this year and a receipt in full for dues this year will be mailed them at once. New members will be welcomed and received with the happy news that they will only be assessed but half the regular fee. Every old member is urged to bring in at least one new player. The entry fee for the county championship has also been sliced, yet withal, cups, trophies and prizes are promised in profusion for both the field day at Briarcliff and the big meet at St. Helens.

A complete schedule of all Vernonia club activities will be printed in the next issue of this paper and all members are then requested to familiarize themselves with its text.

Sunday, March 27, will see the start of the spring handicap and the handicap committee urges that every player arrange to turn in to the club house a card for every round played for the next two weeks. This day will also be observed as "Beginner's Day," the intention being that every member bring a beginner and this novice, upon being vouched for will receive an absolutely free round of golf, fees, clubs and balls included.

Quilting Party For Mrs. Morton

A party of Relief Corps ladies surprised Mrs. Morton on Tuesday to finish a quilt they knew she had started but was unable to finish. All brought basket lunches and had a very pleasant day.

Those present were Mrs. Mae Mellinger, Mrs. Deeberry, Mrs. Ida Johnson, Mrs. Irene Spencer, Mrs. Lena Stanton, Mrs. Ora Glassner, Mrs. Chas. Uhlir, Mrs. Beulah Baslington, Mrs. Laura Sauer, Mrs. Margaret Lines, Mrs. Eula Stanton and Mrs. Alma Mills.

FORMER WATCHMAN DIES IN PORTLAND

Alfred P. Verrander, 54, engine watchman for the United Railways here until last fall, died apparently of a heart attack at his home in Portland early Sunday morning. He retired the night before apparently in good health.

At 1 a. m. Sunday Mrs. Verrander awoke to find her husband seriously ill, having difficulty in breathing. He was sent to the emergency hospital, but died on the way.

Mr. Verrander worked for the railroad company in the local yards for seven or eight years. He continued in service until the way freight was withdrawn, when he was laid off.

He is described by his acquaintances as an exceptionally well read man. He was an ex-navy man, and had seen the whole world.

He is survived by his widow and by one sister and three brothers who live in England.

Services were held Tuesday in Portland, with commitment in Riverview cemetery.

6th Anniversary Is Celebrated

Vernonia temple 61, Pythian Sisters, celebrated its sixth anniversary Wednesday night with a number of Knights of Pythias and Pythian Sisters from St. Helens participating.

The anniversary program began at nine o'clock following the regular temple session. Charlotte Green played a piano solo, and Marian Lindley presented three vocal numbers. A minstrel act was given by P. A. Dixon and Mr. Murphy of St. Helens. Mr. Murphy's songs were accompanied by Mrs. P. B. Wiggins, also of St. Helens.

Cards were played informally and refreshments of cake, ice cream and coffee were served. A beautiful birthday cake with six lighted candles was the center of attraction. Tables were decorated with yellow daffodils.

Visitors from St. Helens included Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Ballagh, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Swenson, Mr. and Mrs. Marcy Wilson, Mrs. P. B. Wiggins, Mrs. P. F. Beaman, Mr. Dixon and Mr. Murphy.

Mrs. Beaman who is most excellent chief of the temple in St. Helens once lived in Vernonia, where she taught in the schools for four years. Mrs. Wiggins is also a former Vernonia resident, having been active in local musical circles.

The evening's entertainment was planned by the past chiefs of Vernonia temple, and refreshments were in charge of Miss Macle Roberts, Mrs. James Nanson, Mrs. Harry Kerns and Mrs. Tom Crawford.

Churches Plan Easter Services

Special services for Easter are planned by the Evangelical and Christian churches.

Today at 3:30 there will be a Good Friday service at the Evangelical church, the pastor, Rev. G. W. Plumer, preaching on the subject, "He Died."

Sunday morning the services in both churches will be appropriate to the occasion, with special music. Mr. Stephens' subject in the Christian church will be "Arguments of the Open Tomb" and Mr. Plumer's "He Arose." At the evening services of the Evangelical church there will be two pantomimes, "The Old Rugged Cross" and "The Risen Lord," and special music by the junior and senior choirs.

Mrs. D. K. Mendehall and Edith Linsley were in town Wednesday.

O. H. and J. O. Devaney were in town Wednesday. Judge P. Hill is able to be out again after a couple of week's illness.

Fine Fishing Reported By Local Men

The fishing is fine, thank you, and local Isaak Waltons are returning at the close of a day's sport with broad grins on their faces and full baskets under their arms—as full as the law allows, but no fuller, of course.

Particularly fine luck is reported along Rock creek Sunday, near Keasey. Steelhead were very fine, averaging around seven pounds, and John Hansen caught a 14-pounder.

The rainy weather and murky waters this week promise well for further good luck.

Vernonia's Tax Decrease Heavy

Tax notices received in Vernonia this week from the office of Sheriff Oscar G. Weed show a decrease of 40 per cent under the 1931 taxes. In some cases where the assessed valuation was lowered this year's tax is less than 50 per cent of the amount the taxpayer was compelled to pay on the same property last year.

The statement of the assessment and tax roll issued this month by Assessor Fred Watkins shows that the levy for Vernonia is 56.1 mills, as compared with 93.7 mills in 1931.

The heavy local decrease is accounted for by the fact that the levy for School District 47 was reduced from 18.7 mills to 6.9 mills, for the city itself from 43.4 mills to 28.1 mills, for the Union high district 1 from 5.1 mills to 4.3 mills, and the special road tax of 5 mills for district 16 was eliminated.

The levy for the general county fund was reduced from 16.2 mills to 13.8 mills.

Economies in current expenditures and balances on hand from savings of last year made possible the local decrease.

NAUMAN, NELSON AT MILK MEETING

Secretary Joe Nauman of the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce and County Agent George A. Nelson went to Portland Thursday of last week in support of resolutions from local chambers of commerce urging the city of Portland to repel any attempts of outsiders to invade the Portland market with milk.

About 25 representatives from different chambers were there. Mr. Nauman, newly elected secretary of the county chamber, reports that new members are being added daily.

Just Eight Club Meets at Mrs. Timmons'

Mrs. J. L. Timmons entertained with three tables of bridge, Thursday evening, March 17, for members of the Just Eight club and guests.

Mrs. E. H. Washburn received the guest prize for high score and Mrs. Frank Hartwick the consolation. Among club members the high score was held by Mrs. W. J. Armitage and low by Mrs. Rose Fletcher.

The hostess served a lunch of fruit salad, wafers, chocolate eclairs and coffee.

Those present were Mrs. Washburn, Mrs. Dan Brown, Mrs. Hartwick, Mrs. Loel Roberts, Miss Macle Roberts, Mrs. W. M. Henderson, Mrs. Lloyd Baker, Mrs. James Nanson, Mrs. Harry Kerns, Mrs. Armitage and Mrs. Fletcher.

MAN SENTENCED TO 90 DAYS

Everett McCollum was sentenced Thursday in Justice Hill's court to 90 days in jail upon pleading guilty to larceny of a drag saw upon complaint of T. V. Holstine. He was arrested Wednesday and was taken to St. Helens Thursday. Joseph McCollum, his brother, was arrested at the same time, but was released by Justice Hill.

Cessation Of Relief Draws Fire

Development Association Pleads for Work in This Section

Protest against discontinuance of emergency relief employment on state highways is being made by the Northwest Oregon Development association, of which Wm. F. Woodward of Portland is president and U. L. Upson of Portland is secretary.

Although the commission states that inquiries to representatives of upstate counties resulted in information that the unemployment problem was not a serious one, that the demand for farm and other labor was rapidly taking up the slack, the association is convinced that in Multnomah county the problem is growing increasingly acute. More than 50 per cent of the unemployed are concentrated in Portland and vicinity, say Mr. Woodward and Mr. Upson. Therefore, they assert, it would seem that now in its hour of great necessity it should receive some larger share of the funds to which it contributed generously.

During the 15 years of highway history, according to statistics compiled by the development association, the motorists of Multnomah county have received back less than 7 cents of each dollar contributed. "Now they and their neighbors are asking for relief in their great emergency, and what do they receive? Only the promise of \$58,000 for some preliminary work on the Fourth street highway and some surveys on the Wilson river and northern short road to sea."

In accordance with a resolution passed at the meeting of directors of the development association March 10 a letter of protest was sent to the commission. Decision of the commission not to engage in new construction in 1932, thus postponing indefinitely a actual construction of the Wilson river and either the Vernonia-Hamlet or Wolf creek routes, in large part occasioned the criticism which the association is making.

J. E. Kerr of Vernonia, W. A. Wood of Rainier and E. E. Wist of Scappoose are the Columbia county representatives on the board of directors of the Northwest Oregon Development association.

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR FERNE GOUGH

St. Patrick's day was the birthday of Ferne Gough. A party was held after school to which were invited the girls of the second-grade. Games were played and cake and ice cream enjoyed.

Feathers . . . and . . . Talons

Doc Cole made a hole in one a few days ago—only the hole was in the windshield of A. E. Adams' truck passing unsuspectingly along the highway.

C. Bruce spent most of Sunday fishing in Rock creek near the concrete bridge. What he caught was mostly advice and kidding. He was happy, though, till a pseudo-warden, Ken McNeill and the rest of the gang, persuaded him it was against the law to fish within a hundred feet of a bridge.

"Tim" says he deserves credit for cleaning up the alley beside the O. G. E. building a while back. He does, and this is it, Tim.

Folks have been wondering what became of the Early Bird. Must have been getting up late.