

SLOT MACHINES, PUNCH BOARDS OUSTED

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Vernonia Eagle

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

VERNONIA, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1938

McNeill Resigns City Post

Councilmen Dispose of Local Business; Council to Appoint Monday Night

K. A. McNeill resigned his post as Vernonia city councilman Monday evening at an adjourned session held in the council chambers here.

In submitting his resignation, Councilman McNeill stated that he had disposed of his business interests here and that he felt it best to resign in view of his future plans. The council, on motion by Councilman Roy Raymond and seconded by Councilman Stacey, accepted the resignation, announcing immediately that a week would be taken to "think over" a new appointment for the retiring official's chair.

McNeill has been active in community affairs since 1924 when he came here. Though he had served on the council a few days over a year, he has held responsible posts in the Chamber of Commerce, aided in the airport development project and is a prominent member of the Masonic order.

McNeill was chairman of the judiciary and health committees in the council and a member of the finance and street committees. In all probability, his successor will step into these appointments following his naming at the regular meeting here Monday night.

Goble to Be Scene of Mass Meeting

Townsendites to Assemble At Dedication of New Hall; Public Is Invited

A Columbia County Townsend mass meeting has been called at Goble, Sunday, January 16th. The purpose of the meeting is to dedicate a new Townsend hall that has recently been completed by the Goble Townsend club consisting of some 40 members.

Dinner will be served at noon. A business meeting of all club officers and members will be held at 1:45 p. m.

Clarence R. Wagoner, Portland, will deliver the Townsend address in honor of the occasion. Everyone is welcome and it is hoped that a large crowd will be present to extend congratulations to this group for its achievement. Mrs. C. O. Thomas, district manager for Columbia County, is arranging this meeting and extends an invitation to the public.

Library Board Makes 1937 Report

Balance on Hand Shown At \$103.87; New Members Attend Meeting

The Vernonia library board met Monday evening at the Mrs. Paul Gordon home to review the work of the past year and to formulate plans for the ensuing year.

During the evening the financial report was made. Receipts during 1937 were \$151.46. Balance on hand January 1, 1937, was \$49.29; rentals during the year amounted to \$50.40; fines \$45.04; miscellaneous donations \$2.89; Rainbow Girls fines and rentals \$3.84.

Disbursements were: magazines (Continued on page 12.)

Vernonia Lady Re-elected to Townsend District Presidency

The Townsend district convention for district No. 1, was held in the Elks' Temple, Sunday, January 9, at Corvallis. Ninety-eight delegates registered from the clubs in the district.

An enthusiastic audience of 1100 people attended the convention and filled two spacious rooms in the temple.

Mrs. C. O. Thomas, president of the congressional district board, called the convention to order at 11:00 a. m. and acted as temporary chairman throughout the morning session and until mid-afternoon at which time Charles L. Paine, district board secretary, was elected by a large majority as permanent chairman. Mrs. Fitch of Corvallis, acted as temporary secretary and was later elected permanent secretary.

Mrs. Thomas then introduced Mayor W. H. Hand of Corvallis, who gave a cordial welcome and congratulated all on the progress the Townsend workers have made in behalf of the movement and assured them he felt they would be successful in enacting the Townsend Plan into National law. He also announced that they knew when it was decided the district convention was to be held there they would not need to keep the police force on duty to keep order at the convention so they had been given the day off.

Other speakers at the convention were Mrs. Marion Nagel Lacombe, who spoke on "Selling the Townsend Plan to the Business Man Through Transaction Stamps." W. H. Ward, Tillamook, spoke on "Selling the Townsend Plan to the Business Man Through Publicity." Charles Paine, Eugene, spoke on financing the Townsend work through transaction stamps and the progress of the

Clark-Wilson Crews Repair Storm Damage

Slides, Telephone Lines Give Trouble, Superintendent Baker Says

The Clark and Wilson crews at Wilark are busily engaged in clearing the recent storm damage which affected the logging company's rail and telephone facilities, Superintendent Frank Baker announced Saturday.

A crew of men have been working on the company's 50 miles of railroad track throughout the operation, clearing slides and replacing damaged ties and rails, in order that the lines will be accessible, should further storms blanket the area.

In addition, the company's telephone communications through to Scappoose were also severely hampered due to the storm and crews have been busy since repairing and replacing sections of the line, which included new poles and wire.

A note of encouragement, as far as local employment conditions are concerned, was sounded Saturday by Superintendent Baker when he announced that approximately 18 men had returned to work in the Wilark shop making repairs on equipment and setting the department in order, evidently in preparation for anticipated activity at the camp. The bulk of the repair work is being done on locomotives and gas equipment, the report stated.

Students Here

Herbert Stratford of Billings, Montana, accompanied Clare Jarvis, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Jarvis of Vernonia, home to spend the week end here. Both of the young men attend Pacific University at Forest Grove.

Townsend movement in District 1. Arthur Moore, congressional district manager, presented an interesting address on Townsendism and received an ovation that lasted for several minutes.

Gordon Ware, national representative, Chicago, addressed the convention and announced that since September, 500 new members had been signed up in the state and 3000 of this number had been credited to District 1. He also stated that this was the only district convention that had been held in the United States since a National bulletin had been issued in September.

Former Well Known Man Dies Jan. 12

J. L. Van Blaricom, Resident Here in Youth, Passes in Newberg

Joseph Lawrence Van Blaricom, 72, veteran Newberg groceryman, and a former Vernonia resident, well known here, died the morning of January 12 at his home following a brief illness.

Funeral rites are being held this afternoon in Newberg at 2:30.

The deceased resided here as a youth and until he grew to adulthood. He was well known over the entire county.

Aside from his widow, Ida M., and a son, Elgin, who is an employee of the state license department at Salem, Mr. Van Blaricom is survived by a sister, Mrs. Emma Weed, and a niece, Mrs. E. E. Garner, both of Vernonia.

Chamber to Ask Change In Test Hours

Drivers' License Exams in Afternoon and Evening To Aid Workers

The Vernonia Chamber of Commerce, at its first meeting in the new year, held Tuesday noon at the Masonic temple, voted to seek a change in hours for the drivers' license examinations to accommodate mill employees unable to take the tests during the present hours.

It was pointed out that the present hours extend from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. on the day the examiner is here. The chamber will request that the hours be altered to give local driver the hours of from 1 to 8 p. m.

The secretary was instructed to write the secretary of state for the change.

The members ordered membership cards printed and some form of card devised for members to display in their windows designating membership in the local organization.

T. M. Crawford explained the lack of proper lighting facilities at the Camp Fire Girls' cabin in the city park and after discussion, the chamber decided to have a light installed at the cabin which could be controlled by a switch inside the structure.

The members discussed the possibility of evening meetings in place of noon meeting and a decision to hold the next session, with ladies present was reached.

Improve Building

Bent Brickel has a crew of men busy this week remodeling, renovating and improving the Coyle building which he recently purchased. A new shingled roof was the first improvement made by the new owner.

WOOLSEY SLATED FOR BABY DERBY AWARDS

By virtue of the birth of a son, weighing 7 1/4 pounds, at 11:59 a. m. the morning of Sunday, January 9, Mr and Mrs. A. A. Woolsey are the winners of the awards offered for "First Baby Vernonia" by the local retail merchants. Mr. Woolsey is an employee of the Oregon-American Lumber Corporation, and the family has resided in this community for a number of years.

The new arrival has been in a serious condition due to illness, a report stated, and some fear was expressed for its recovery. However, the baby's condition was reported "favorable" yesterday.

Jubilee Week Is Planned By Church

Special Services Each Evening to Prove Attractive, Pastor Says

A Jubilee Week, designated by the Christian church in celebration of its passing from the red ink column, will start at the local edifice Sunday morning, January 16, and continue through the evening of January 23.

Meetings will be held each evening at 7:30, presenting special messages, music, pantomimes and other features. Visiting ministers and churchmen will conduct the services on week nights and the Livingstones will preside Sundays. The closing ceremony of the week will see the burning of the debts. A total of \$2,500 has been paid off in two years, Rev. Livingstone said, and there remains no question but that a small remaining balance will be cleaned up before the week's arrival.

County Court Names Officers For New Year

Dr. L. G. Ross Is County Health Officer; Mallabar To Manage Fair

Appointments for the ensuing year were made by the Columbia county court Tuesday at its meeting in St. Helens are as follows:

Dr. L. G. Ross, county health officer; Miss Nettie Alley, county health nurse; J. A. Bacon, fruit inspector; and E. E. Mallabar, member of the fair board to succeed Earl Dowler.

Mallabar is due for appointment as secretary of the board and manager of the county fair. Other board members are S. F. Heuman and W. F. Sheets.

Council Says Water Rents Must Be Paid

Prospective Ordinance to Make Payment of Deposit Mandatory

Vernonia residents will soon be confronted with a new city ordinance requiring a deposit in advance from local water users, the consensus of opinion at the council meeting Monday night indicated.

A rough estimate placed the amount of water delinquencies at between \$9,000 and \$10,000, it was learned, and a stoppage of the delinquencies must be brought about it was said. Councilman Raymond (Continued on page 12.)

Weed Is Named Director

H. M. Condit Resigns from Union High School Board Saturday Night

Oscar Weed, Pleasant Hill rancher, former sheriff of the county and a former school board member, was appointed Saturday night to a place on Union High school district No. 1 board to succeed H. M. Condit, who resigned at the same meeting.

Condit submitted his resignation verbally during the meeting and the appointment followed. Condit has been a director for 12 years and in that time had missed but two meetings. He was chairman of the board.

W. E. Crawford, Beaver creek, was named chairman to succeed Condit.

Peter Bergerson is the third member of the board.

Aside from the appointment, other important business included the retention of Wallace McCrae as superintendent of the union high school for a 3-year period. His contract was offered to him Saturday and was accepted by him.

OCF Group Here, Is Plan Advanced

Commonwealthers Will Hold Mass Meeting January 21

The Oregon Commonwealth Federation, progressive political organization of the Northwest, will probably branch out in this district, a report this week states.

Local men interested in the movement are making arrangements this week for a public mass meeting, presumably in the Washington grade school, for the evening of Friday, January 21.

Dr. Ralph Shadduck, member of the state OCF board of directors, is billed as principal speaker and his appearance here during the net of Monroe Sweetland, state secretary, is anticipated.

Additional information covering details will be announced later, the net stated.

New Bridge In Prospect For Riverview

Mile Span to Be Replaced By Structure Down Stream; Bids Called

Bids were called and opened at 9 a. m. the morning of January 7 in the Oregon State Highway Commission's office on the 13th floor of the Public Service building in Portland for a new span across the Nehalem river at Riverview, a report this week states.

The successful bidder was not revealed.

The plans call for improvement of 24 of a mile which includes the surface of the bridge. The location of the span would be moved downstream a short distance with the approach on the west side to be changed.

The bridge is to be 210 feet long, constructed of timber, steel and concrete. It would retain its present name of "Mile Bridge."

Motor To Portland

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wall went to Portland on business Saturday.

Dealers Given Till Monday

Phone Conversation With Sheriff Calhoun by Eagle Reveals Order

In a phone conversation with Sheriff Calhoun of Columbia county late Wednesday afternoon, The Eagle learned that store and tavern owners of the district harboring slot machines, pin ball "skill" devices and punch boards would be given until Monday, January 17, to rid their places of the equipment. The order comes on the heels of the Oregon Supreme Court's ruling of Tuesday which declares the devices unlawful.

"They can say all they want too," hastily conversed Lester Sheeley, city attorney, yesterday morning, following the ruling of the state's highest tribunal which placed the Indian sign on pinball machines and nickel-in-the-slot machines now being operated within the state, "but Vernonia is hit hard by the ruling if it is to be enforced."

Approximately \$2,100 is the revenue to this municipality on the devices, it was learned. Each operator is required to pay \$100 license and each individual in whose place of business the machines are stored for play pays \$5 monthly on each machine.

A quick check of the city indicated that between 25 and 30 of the machines were affected by the ruling. With the district attorney's office including the punch boards in the order, adhering to the state ruling, it was estimated that 50 or 60 of the punchboards would be affected in Vernonia with nearly that many included in the immediate vicinity.

CUTS DIRECT TAX

The City of Vernonia budgeted a total of \$6,865 to be raised by direct taxation in its last budget. Of this total \$3,000 was to have been raised by fines and licenses with \$2,100 of the \$3,000 to come in anticipated pinball, slot machine and similar machine license money. The operators' fees have been paid here, it was evidenced, and the first quarter of the monthly funds have been received and receipted by the recorder.

NO RETURN, SAID

Attorney Sheeley intimated that the city could not return any of the fees due to the fact that at the time the money was taken the law was valid and that all operators and dealers were warned of the hazard of a court reversal.

It was feared here by city officials that should the court's stand remain, a higher millage on the assessed valuation of the city would issue to cover the loss in license fees.

The stand of the court, according to press notices, was evidently wound around the lottery clause in the state constitution. Justice Belt wrote the decision. The 1935 legislative act authorizing municipal corporations and counties to license and tax pinball games, dart games and other games of like character was declared unconstitutional.

JUSTICE QUOTED

The justice said that some courts take a broad view of the term lottery, while others take the somewhat restricted view that a lottery has broad social consequences and amounts to a "widespread pestilence."

"No doubt this feature gave rise to prohibitory legislation against the operation of lotteries," Justice Belt continued. "In our opinion, a scheme or device may constitute a lottery even though it does not amount to a 'widespread pestilence.'"

"We have no hesitancy in saying, however, that various types of slot machines have become a 'widespread pestilence.'"

Two Seniors Finish School At End of Semester

Hugh McDonald and Ed Baker, two seniors who are ninth termers at the high school, will finish their courses at the end of the first semester.

Both were prominent in football, with Hugh being an All-County team member, and Ed playing on the regular line up for two years.