

Vernonia Eagle

Thursday, January 28, 1943

Vernonia, Columbia County, Oregon

Library, U of O

Volume 20, Number 4

Files Tell of Past Snow, Zero Weather

Last week's low temperatures and heavy snow was something which definitely does not come to Vernonia often. But at exactly what times similar weather was experienced here is a question not easily answered. Files of The Eagle since its beginning in 1922 were searched as one means of evidence.

December, 1937's snow set no record for depth, but was followed by a flood which was thought to be unequalled in Vernonia's history. "Two days of almost incessant snowfall mantled the district, placing six to eight inches on the ground, up to 18 inches in the surrounding mountains." Together with the melting snow, the heavy rain which followed caused Rock creek to overflow its banks and maroon 100 families in Vernonia and the surrounding districts. Much property was damaged.

Zero weather recorded was in January, 1930, when temperature reportedly fell to 14 degrees below zero and the Nehalem river froze over. Also at that time in many places roads were nearly impassable because of snow drifts. In 1923 weather was said to be just as severe—the mill pond froze over then. In mid-December, 1932 four or five inches of ice formed on the mill pond. Burst water pipes were the only results of freezing temperatures reported during other winters.

Depths Sometimes Omitted

As for snow, the depths were not always reported. "Following the heavy snowfall" of mid-January, 1932, "Vernonia sported its share of snowmen." Twelve inches was the report at the end of that month—and a good part of February had passed before that accumulation disappeared. One foot of snow was recorded in early February, 1937 and roads were temporarily blocked. Four feet was the depth of snow at Keasey at that time.

A story in a late January, 1935 issue of The Eagle mentioned: "St. Helens—Vernonia road blocked. . . schools down two days because of uncertain transportation. . . heavy drifts," and on New Year's day, 1928, "200 persons were on Spencer hill. . . sleds, toboggans and what not. . . some skis."

Compares Weather

Ed Sessman, by virtue of having lived here for over 50 years, knows a lot about the weather Vernonia has experienced, but declines to say too much for fear he will be considered a tall-tale-teller. However, Ed will say that this winter's snow doesn't compare with what Vernonia used to have. The lowest temperature he can remember is three degrees below zero. He remembers times when it was possible to float down Bridge street on a raft and the water swirled around the O-A hill. He thinks that high water may have been caused by the lack of obstruction in the streams.

Saturday Dance Said One of Best

Last Saturday night's Vernonia Service club dance was one of the best ones held to date, in spite of the weather. Mrs. Oscar Vike of the dance committee reports. The crowd consisted mostly of young people, many of them high school students, and they are urged to attend the February 6th dance. Sixty-three dollars were taken in at the door Saturday, and the profits will go into the club's treasury. The club wishes to thank Judd Greenman for having the walk leading to the hall cleared of snow.

Burley Named City Attorney

R. M. Burley, Portland attorney, has been named Vernonia city attorney, following the resignation of Paul Patterson of Hillsboro. Mr. Patterson was unable to be in Vernonia to attend city council meetings. Mr. Burley is also attorney for the local PUD and will be able to attend to both duties on trips to Vernonia monthly.

Mr. Burley will be here at 2:00 p.m., next Monday at Bush's Furniture store and will attend the city council meeting that evening.

Ration Head Urges Early Tire Inspection

Deadlines for Holders Of Different Books And Intervals Listed

The fact that the tire inspection deadline for motorists holding A, B and C gasoline ration books has been postponed does not mean that the vehicle operator should wait until the last minute to have this service performed, according to a statement issued this week by Loel Roberts, chairman of OPA's Vernonia War Price and Rationing board.

The modification of the tire inspection program, which was announced by the OPA in Washington recently, allows holders of A books until March 31st of this year and provides that the tires must be inspected once every six months.

Holders of B and C books have until February 28th for tire inspection; B book holders must present their car for tire inspection every four months, and C operators, every three months.

"This action was taken by OPA to relieve tire inspectors from a last minute rush which they probably would have been unable to handle," said Roberts. "Now there will be no excuse for those who fail to comply. It should be borne in mind that after these dates, no holder of any of the ration cards will be able to get gasoline unless the tire inspection certificate is produced."

More Students Needed

A number of women have signed with J. W. Nichols at the light of fee for the nurses' aid course which will start here soon with Mrs. Raymond Justice as instructor. However, before this class can start several more women must be enlisted for the course. Those interested should see Mr. Nichols.

CLUB TO HELP FUND

The only activity locally in connection with the infantile paralysis drive is on the part of the Mt. Vernonia; Heart social club. The club will devote part of the profits of its dance this Saturday to the fund.

Men Who Should Contact Selective Serv. Bd. Listed

Not long after Colonel Elmer V. Wooten, state director of selective service, announced a campaign to locate all Oregon registrants listed by local boards as delinquent, the Columbia county selective service board released a list of men who either have been or will be reported to state headquarters as delinquent—mostly because they failed to complete and return their occupational questionnaires.

Colonel Wooten's announcement included the following statement: "Any person who voluntarily reports to his local board during the month of January, 1943, and whose delinquency was not willful is likely to be given a chance to comply with his obligations and not be prosecuted."

The following registrants have been reported to state headquarters as delinquent for failure to send in their occupational questionnaires. These men should contact the selective service office at once.

LeRoy Ira Arbuckle, St. Helens; John Jerry Waranke, Woodson; Raymond A. Esmino, Vernonia; D. Clinton Smock, Rainier; Fred James Ihle, Clatskanie; Wayne Reagor West, Scappoose; Vance Leroy Sutherland, Vernonia; Eudor A. Constantine, St. Helens; Carl Theodore Carlson, Warren; James Ross Lee, Jr., Vernonia; Roy Alton Carlberg, Vernonia; MaxVERN Shewey, Goble John Bjornson, Vernonia; Albert George O'Day, Scappoose.

The following registrants of the 4th registration have not completed and returned their occupational questionnaires. They should complete and return these immediately or it will be necessary to report them to state headquarters as delinquent.

William M. Becker, Scappoose; George Vrvila, St. Helens; Gust Hein, Scappoose; Adolph Watson, Jr., Vernonia; Francis A. Grey, Vernonia; Andrew J. Johanson, Clatskanie; Anton S. Landsberg, Clatskanie; Henry A. Wiebe, St. Helens; Harry H. Duff, Scappoose; Clayton A. White, Scappoose; John Morehead, Mist; Reuben B. Van-Vleet, Rainier;

List Continues

Clifford B. Boylan, Clatskanie; Norbert Cevela, Clatskanie; Thom Erickson, Deer Island; Wirt McKannon, Houlton; Robert J. Dolan, Vernonia; Otto Gross, Clatskanie; John W. Erickson, Vernonia; Joe Cechmanek, Mist; W. D. Johnston, (Continued on page 6)

State Income Tax Men Due in Nearby Cities

Returns Must Be Filed by April 1; Those Taxable Listed

State income tax auditors will be in St. Helens at the court house on March 16, 17 and 18 between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., in Clatskanie at the city hall on March 18 between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m., and in Forest Grove at the Forest Grove National bank on February 23 and 24 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. These auditors will assist taxpayers in preparing their state income tax returns.

All returns for the calendar year 1942 must be filed on or before April 1, 1943. All returns mailed so they bear the postmark April 1 or before will not be considered delinquent.

The following people must file returns:

Single individuals (or married and not living with husband or wife) having net income from all sources of \$800 or more, or having surtax net income (intangibles income) of \$500 or more during the taxable year.

Married couples having combined net income from all sources of \$1,500 or more, or having combined surtax net income of \$800 or more during the taxable year.

All individuals or married couples with a gross income of \$4000 or more during the taxable year.

The schedule of these auditors is not to be confused with that of deputy collectors of the treasury department who will appear at the following nearby towns. St. Helens—February 12 and 13; Rainier—February 15; Clatskanie—February 16; Forest Grove, February 20, 21 and 22.

Teachers Hired; Parties Given

Mrs. R. D. Fletcher is filling the position of seventh grade and social studies teacher left vacant when Robert Slawson resigned for other work. Mrs. Fletcher once taught at Camp McGregor, and has done substitution work at the Washington grade school.

Mrs. Leslie Buell, who resigned as a Washington grade school teacher last week, has accepted a position as boys' and girls' physical education teacher at the John T. Vestal grade school in Portland. It is located at 82nd street. She is making her home with an aunt in Portland.

Farewell parties for the two departing teachers were held Thursday afternoon following the presentation of the play, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," by the first grade. The eighth grade and one seventh grade feted Mr. Slawson and presented him with an IOOF ring; while the sixth grade and remainder of the seventh grade entertained Mrs. Buell and gave her a writing set. All present enjoyed ice cream and cake.

Meters Not Read

Due to the fact that water meters could not be read this month, the minimum rate will in most cases be charged, Loel Roberts, city recorder, announces. For those bills which run consistently, an average will be determined and charged. Next month bills will be based on the total for two months, minus the first month's charge.

Dimout Aid

Sunrise and Sunset Hours		
	Sunrise	Sunset
Jan. 28—8:38		6:10
29—8:37		6:12
30—8:36		6:14
31—8:34		6:15
Feb. 1—8:33		6:16
2—8:32		6:18
3—8:31		6:19
4—8:30		6:21

Weather Blamed For 3 Accidents

Three accidents have occurred locally during recent days with the weather as a contributing factor.

On Monday six-year-old Kenneth Nanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Nanson, received a broken leg as the result of a sledding accident. As the youngster was sliding down the O-A hill he approached an automobile, the driver of which stopped when he saw the boy. Kenneth could not stop his sled and collided with the car.

While cleaning snow from the barrel of a shotgun on Wednesday, January 20, Mrs. M. A. Schmidt, who lives on the Beaver creek road, accidentally discharged the gun. Her left forefinger was nearly shot off and had to be removed.

A head-on collision as the result of slippery road conditions on the bridge this side of Pittsburg left the small son of O. O. Melbourne, driver of one auto, with a severe cut on his forehead. Bob Bodell was the driver of the other car.

Board Inducts 42 From County

Forty-two men were recently inducted into the military service by Columbia county local board No. 1 as follows:

James Grant Strachan, Houlton; Raymond Carl Salmon, Woodson; Walter Lapp, Deer Island; Gordon Ernest Zerkel, Clatskanie; Gunnar Walter Nasman, St. Helens; Hans Walter Ott, Rainier; James Harold Burke, Wilark; August Julius Boesel, Scappoose; Homer Walter Ellertson, Woodson; Reino Luoto, St. Helens; Merle Winfield Stevens, Houlton; George Marchi, Clatskanie; Leroy Skelton, Scappoose; John Ragnar Dahlgren, Scappoose;

Floyd Arthur Tovey, Vernonia; James Artamas Muzzey, Clatskanie; Chester Sellers, Clatskanie; Walter E. Brechtbill, St. Helens; James John Mattson, Warren; Joseph E. Shumacker, St. Helens; Carl Strom, Jr., Scappoose; Alvin Lindsten, St. Helens; Kastner Donovan Bradley, Scappoose; William Arthur Hicks, Rainier; Harbon Travis Lilly, Vernonia; Valenor Joseph Erickson, Houlton; Verner Arneson, Houlton; Lester Vernon Roberts, Rainier;

Vernon Joseph Bourcier, Houlton; Maxwell Leonard Moses, St. Helens; Chester Werner Johnson, Clatskanie; John Durecka, Warren; Marvin Herman Mannisto, Clatskanie; Carl Stanley Sundquist, Rainier; James Robert Gates, Jr., Rainier; Roy Dell Hyde, St. Helens; Lawrence Raymond Beeler, Houlton; Paul H. Dyer, Vernonia; Donald W. Bower, Rainier; George E. Jones, St. Helens; William C. Flippo, St. Helens; Raymond Hallock, Scappoose.

More Temporary Rations Available

An amendment to Ration Order 5C provides for the use of temporary transport rations beyond January 31. Operators who have applied for, but not received, their certificates of war necessity or a notice denying such a certificate are eligible.

The amendment also applies to operators who have appeals pending before the ODT, if a postcard has been received notifying the applicant that his appeal is being considered.

Temporary transport rations are not to exceed the approximate minimum requirements for a period of 30 days, or until the end of the quarter, whichever is less.



Those Who Are in It



Ben J. Fowler at Drew Field, Tampa, Florida was recently promoted to corporal. He has been there since May and is a radio technician in the signal corps.

Two brothers in the Navy are Gerald and George Hobin. Gerald enlisted last July and his sister, Mrs. Kenneth White, received a card from him at Christmas from Honolulu. George enlisted in August and is now at sea, with Oakland as his home port.

If Milo John of Camp Roberts, California had known what kind of weather Vernonia has been having he might have omitted the following from a recent letter to George Johnson:

"I sure would like to be back in good old Vernonia about now. It is so cold in sunny California at night and in the mornings that I almost freeze to death. Home was never like this. Personally, I would not trade any part of Oregon for any part of California. There are several boys here from Oregon. Some from Salem, St. Helens, Tillamook, Portland, and all over. They all feel the same way as I do about this country. I would gladly take the rain and wind and snow in place of this darned climate."

Pvt. E. V. Morris has been transferred from Pendleton to the Spokane Air depot at Galena, Washington.

The Eagle recently received a very newsy letter from Cpl. Arthur B. Meyer, who was inducted in July and sent to Camp Crowder, Missouri.

Arthur says he has just been promoted to the rank of corporal technician, being a skilled radio operator. He has completed one course in field operation, and has one month to go as a high speed operator in his second course.

Cpl. Meyer had just received a Vernonia Eagle from home in which he saw an article mentioning that Charles Durbendorf was stationed at Sparten Field, Tulsa, Oklahoma. "So I decided to wander down that way and see, and to his surprise there was his wife, Mary Lee, also. The day was spent in discussing the signal corps, the air corps, and old times at home."

About Missouri weather Arthur says: "If you hear anyone talking of the cold there, just send them to old Missouri where it IS cold. I woke up yesterday morning to find it zero weather, and this morning (January 19) to find it 12 below, with a brisk wind blowing. That is Missouri weather for you. Give me Oregon any time."

MIST—Arthur Siegenthaler, who lives just outside of Mist left in the late summer to serve in the army. He was located in some eastern camp until late November or December. His mail is now sent to New York, so it is assumed he is overseas.

Mr. Siegenthaler is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Siegenthaler and was engaged in farming while in Mist, having bought the A. T. Peterson farm. He also conducted an orchestra which played for local dances. His father is an engineer on a train that runs to The Dalles. (Continued on page 6)

Item in Eagle Brings Results

At 10:00 a.m., not long after the Eagle was in the hands of some of its readers last week, A. D. Lolley found the person he was looking for through an item appearing in last week's issue. The item concerned Thomas Kenneth Wilson, who was in the Marine hospital in Seattle but died Wednesday evening of last week.

It was thought that he had a sister here named Mrs. Berrick, but it turned out to be a cousin, Mrs. Floyd Risley. Mr. Lolley had previously mentioned his search to Mrs. Risley, but at that time did not know the man's name.

Ira Mann Passes Away January 25

Funeral services for Ira Mann, who died in Portland on Monday, January 25, will be held at 1:00 p.m., next Saturday, January 30 at the Holman and Lutz Colonial mortuary at NE 14th and Sandy in Portland. Cremation will follow.

Mr. Mann became ill on Tuesday, January 12, entered the Providence hospital on the following Tuesday, and underwent an operation on January 19.

Ira Mann was born April 27, 1867, and was therefore nearly 76 at the time of his death. He came to Vernonia with his wife in the spring of 1923. Years ago he worked on steamboats; here he was employed at the mill as an oiler and recently has been a guard. He was a member of Vernonia Lodge No. 184, A. F. & A. M. and also of the Royal Arch Masons No. 54.

The only surviving relatives are his wife, Jane, his daughter, Anne (Mrs. Don Coolie) of Arizona, and a cousin, George Holaman of Portland.

Mr. Mann was born in Illinois.

Weather Change Results in Slush

A change in the weather Monday night turned the snow which had been on the ground for days into extremely slushy slush. Water began to stand on the streets Tuesday afternoon, and efforts were made to drain it. A grader and snow plow went to work Wednesday morning shoveling the melting snow to the side for the benefit of traffic. A surprising number of cars were parked on the snow piled deep near the curbs, and many men, out of work because of the snow, stood watching it melt. To them, as well as many others, slush was preferable to snow, as it was a forerunner of work.

Camps have been down since Friday, January 15—the following day saw the beginning of the somewhat rare weather. The mill closed Wednesday night, January 20, and, although it was to be opened last Monday, will now resume operations after Camp McGregor does. When that will be depends on how fast the snow there melts.

Statistics Shown

Weather reports kept by Ed Sessman on Corey hill show that 20 inches of snow was the most on the ground at one time—January 25. Six inches fell during the 24-hour period of that day. Snow started on January 16, when 5 inches fell. No less than two inches was on the ground from that day on, due to the fact that continuous freezing weather began that day and did not stop until Tuesday, January 26, (Continued on page 6)